FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 DECEMBER 1984

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Iraqi military reinforcements have been deployed in the central battle sector over the past few days in anticipation of a new Iranian offensive, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Iraq's 4th Army Corps is now fully prepared to destroy any Iranian aggression, and is monitoring the Iranian forces' battle preparations, its commander declared in a statement carried in the 27 December Defense Ministry newspaper and cited by INA.

Iran

In an anonymous telephone call to AFP's Tehran bureau, a man claimed responsibility on behalf of the opposition People's Mujahedeen for the 26 December Tehran car bomb explosion in which "four" people were killed, AFP reported. However, this claim was denied by a Paris spokesman for the group, who hinted that the bomb might have been planted by the Iranian Government to tarnish the opposition's image, according to the agency.

Lebanon

Security Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil left for Damascus to discuss Lebanese political and security developments with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. Earlier, on 26 December, seven new conditions stipulated by the PSP prevented the Cabinet meeting from ratifying the security plan for the coastal and Al-Kharrub areas, so the Cabinet authorized the Military Council to deal with obstacles to the plan, Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed. However, according to a subsequent report by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, an "official" PSP source denied reports about new PSP conditions for the coast road security plan. The source asserted that PSP leader Walid Junblatt gave "unequivocal" instructions to facilitate the plan's implementation, and said that the Phalangists and the government were trying to avoid the agreement even though the Military Council confirmed it at a 23 December meeting.

IDF Withdrawal — The Israeli prime minister has moved toward the defense minister's position in order to persuade the Likud leaders to agree to a phased IDF withdrawal, with the first stage set at the Al-Litani River, the second at the line between the international border and the Al-Litani, and the third at the international border, Jerusalem television revealed.

Fighting — For the third time in 10 days shells hit the Al-Awwali area near Israeli positions, the Voice of Lebanon radio reported, noting that firing at the coastal road and al-Kharrub villages was continuing.

Israel

Delegations from Israel, Egypt, and the United States will meet in Beersheba in 2 weeks to discuss MFO deployment in Tabah, Jerusalem radio reported.

In a separate development, IDF radio predicted that Israel will agree "in principle" to the U.S. request to set up a VOA relay station in Israel, adding that "in all probability" Israel will suggest establishing a committee to study a location for it, postponing the project for an "unlimited period" because the country's leaders fear the effect of such a move on the USSR's attitude toward Soviet Jews.

Afghanistan

Anticipating rebel attacks in connection with the fifth anniversary of Soviet intervention, Soviet and DRA forces have increased security measures in Kabul, AFP reported, citing a Western diplomatic source. Last week rebel ambushes closed the highway between Kabul and the Soviet border for 4 days, according to the same source.

Pakistan

A government spokesman affirmed that elections will be held before 23 March 1985 as stated by President Ziaul Haq in August 1983, according to Karachi radio. Haq will announce whether the elections will be held on a party or nonparty basis, the spokesman added. Meanwhile, police released three opposition leaders who were placed under house arrest to prevent them from attending an antigovernment rally on 25 December, Delhi radio's English service revealed.

Maghreb

An official SDAR statement announced that 100 Moroccan soldiers were killed in a Polisario attack in the Mahbes area on 24 December and 37 others died in attacks on positions along the defensive wall from 14 to 24 December, Algiers radio reported.

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Kuwaiti Paper: 'Arafat To Visit Cairo 'Early February'
GF261400 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 25 Dec 84 p 1

[Text] Cairo — *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* has learned the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue will begin in Amman on 7 January. Jordanian and Palestinian leaders will discuss the Jordanian view which was put forth in the speech by King Husayn at the opening meeting of the 17th PNC session.

Our correspondent has learned that the issue of the Palestinian move on the Arab level will be activated during the next few weeks, resulting in a visit by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Cairo in early February 1985.

Kuwaiti Daily Reports Fatah-Egyptian Contacts
GF261500 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 25 Dec 84 p 1

['Amid al-Shanti dispatch]

[Text] A senior Palestinian official has said that Rafiq al-Natshah, member of Fatah Central Committee, has held many official discussions recently with Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali on Egyptian-Palestinian relations.

The source added that the Palestinian-Egyptian contact was carried out with the approval of the members of the Fatah Central Committee. These contacts have resulted in establishing joint ground for political action between Fatah and Egypt, but not between Egypt and the PLO.

PLO's 'Arafat Ends Talks With Husayn, Departs Amman
JN270716 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 27 Dec 84 pp 1, 18

[Excerpt] Amman — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Amman at 0300 today following a 5-day visit to Jordan during which he held two working sessions with His Majesty King Husayn.

Members of the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations participated in the first session. The second session was a closed one that lasted 2 hours, interrupted by a working luncheon.

It was noted that 'Arafat, due to illness, did not expand his official talks and contacts. The PLO Executive Committee was expected to meet in Amman during 'Arafat's visit, but this did not take place because some of the committee's members were on missions abroad. A PLO Executive Committee delegation including Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahim and Muhammad Milhim were on a visit to East Asia and the PRC. Meanwhile, Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, and Fahd al-Qawasimi were about to leave on visits to the CSSR and the USSR in response to official invitations. Jawid al-Ghusayn, head of the Palestinian National Fund who is also a PLO Executive Committee member, joined Yasir 'Arafat only yesterday evening.

'Arafat chaired a 4-hour meeting of the fund. The meeting was attended by Al-Ghusayn and Salih al-Barghuthi. During the meeting the conferees discussed the state of the Palestinian National Fund and some arrangements concerning its new board of directors. The board of directors is likely to incorporate specialized financial expertise to organize and develop the fund's administration.

'Arafat Departs for PDRY, Talks To Resume 7 Jan
JN270740 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27 Dec 84 pp 1,4

[By Lamis K. Andoni]

[Text] Amman — Jordan and the PLO will resume on January 7 their dialogue on joint political moves in efforts to solve the Middle East problem, a senior PLO official said Wednesday. The official, who spoke to the *JORDAN TIMES* on condition that he will not be named, said the agreement came as a result of three days of talks between His Majesty King Husayn and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Mr 'Arafat, who arrived in Amman late Saturday, held two rounds of talks with the King — one over a dinner Sunday night and the other Monday afternoon — in addition to talks with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat on Sunday.

The PLO has yet to name its members to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee To Support the Steadfastness of the People in the Occupied Territories, the official said. The organisation will do so before the resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, he said.

Mr 'Arafat's visit to Amman marked the first by the PLO leader after the convening of the 17th session of the PNC here last month. Several factions of the PLO — some of them independent and others Syrian backed — did not attend the meetings.

Mr 'Arafat was expected to leave for Aden, South Yemen, late Wednesday or early Thursday, the PLO official said and added that the PLO chairman's visit to South Yemen "is not related to publicised reports of a new bid" to reconcile the PLO leader with Syria and PLO factions opposed to his leadership.

Reports from Kuwait earlier this week said that a number of PNC members living in that Gulf state proposed a four-point formula to reconcile the dissident factions and reunify the PLO. According to the reports the four points were: Total commitment on the part of the PLO leadership and all factions to the resolutions adopted by the 16th session of the PNC in Algiers in 1983; total commitment on the part of all factions to an organisational and political agreement between Fatah, the maintream commando movement and Mr 'Arafat's power base within the PLO, and a four-faction "Democratic Alliance."

The agreement, mediated by South Yemen and Algiers, was reached in Aden in last June and ratified in Algiers in July — agreement to start a comprehensive Palestinian national dialogue to settle all outstanding inter-PLO differences, and a new "national unity" PNC meeting to reunify all PLO factions.

The PLO official in Amman Wednesday rejected the idea of a new PNC meeting. "We will not allow anyone to try to abort the

resolutions adopted by the PNC meeting in Amman or cast doubt on the legitimacy of the Amman conference," he said. "Any party having any suggestions to reunify the ranks of the PLO is welcome to write to the PNC leadership which will give it due consideration and take action," he added.

Emphasising once again that Mr 'Arafat's trip to Aden is not related to inter-PLO reconciliation bids, the official said the South Yemeni leadership had invited the PLO leader "much before the convening of the PNC in Amman." Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), Mr 'Arafat's second in command in Fatah, is expected to join the PLO chairman in the South Yemeni capital, the official said.

A PLO delegation will shortly leave for Moscow in response to an official Soviet invitation, the official said. The delegation will comprise of PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, Executive Committee members Fahd Qawasimi and Jawid al-Ghusayn the official said.

During his stay in Amman, Mr 'Arafat met with a delegation representing the West German Greens Party and spent Christmas Eve with members of the delegation.

The PLO leader also called at the residence of 'Azmi al-Mufti the Jordanian embassy counsellor, who was assassinated in Romania earlier this month, to offer condolences to the Al-Mufti family on the death of the diplomat.

Palestinian Source on 'Arafat's Jordan, PDRY Visits

JN270834 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 27 Dec 84 pp 1, 20

[Tawfiq 'Abid dispatch]

[Text] Amman — An informed Palestinian source has said that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's talks with His Majesty King Husayn concentrated on coordination to hold an Arab summit conference as soon as possible. In a statement to *SAWT AL-SHA'B*, the Palestinian source said that these talks were a continuation of those 'Arafat held during his Arab tour in order to close ranks, regain solidarity, and remove the fragmentation which currently prevails Arab relations.

The Palestinian source disclosed that the leaders of the Arab countries which 'Arafat visited agreed to participate in the Arab summit in service of Arab interests and in order to confront the current challenges.

Answering a question, the source said that 'Arafat's visit to the PDRY is in response to an official invitation by President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The source said the visit [to the PDRY] is an important step toward improving relations with all parties and to assert Palestinian legitimacy which some parties have tried to cast doubts about.

The source denied differences between Jordan and the PLO, because the two sides are aware of the situation. He said: The discussions focused on revitalizing the Palestinian cause in the political arena in order to preserve the Palestinian people's rights and their sole, legitimate representative. He said: Jordan is concerned that there should be no differences and is also sympathetic toward the PLO. The PLO is also concerned about its good relations with Jordan.

Answering another question, the source said that the committees stemming from the Executive Committee are reorganizing and activating its institutions as well as making the necessary reforms. Specialized committees have been formed for this purpose. The administrative reform, fact-finding, legal, political, information, and the occupied homeland affairs committees will begin their work next week.

Yasir 'Arafat participated in the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Palestinian National Fund Committee, and the PNC speaker's office meetings. The meetings lasted until late into the night and focused on the future stage of these committees.

It has been learned that the PLO Executive Committee, in a meeting yesterday, reviewed developments in the occupied territories and methods of support to the Arab resistance groups there under Zionist occupation. During the Executive Committee meeting held under Chairman Yasir 'Arafat which was attended by PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, a number of financial and administrative affairs as well as issues related to the plan of international reform inside the PLO were discussed.

The Executive Committee reviewed the results of Yasir 'Arafat's contacts with Arab and foreign leaders on the decisions adopted at the Amman PNC session. The committee also reviewed its plan to reinforce cooperation and coordination with Jordan within the framework of ideas presented [by Jordan] as well as the efforts being exerted to hasten the convening of the next Arab summit conference and to implement the decisions adopted by the ICO foreign ministers in Sanaa.

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Amman for Kuwait this morning en route to Aden. Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf will join 'Arafat in his visit to the PDRY. It has been learned that 'Arafat will inform PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad of developments since the convocation of the PNC, the Arab situation, and the call for an Arab summit.

PNC Speaker on Jordanian-Palestinian Ties, PNC

JN261132 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Dec 84 pp 1, 20

[Samir al-Hiyari dispatch]

[Text] PNC Speaker 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih has stated that His Majesty King Husayn's proposals at the Amman PNC session which are being discussed by the Palestinian leadership, are aimed at activating the Palestinian cause so that it remains alive on both the Arab and international levels. He said: We have agreed that when a basis on which the Jordanians and Palestinians can meet has been laid down, it will be presented to an Arab summit or to a similar meeting.

In a statement to *AL-RA'Y*, Al-Sa'ih said our purpose is not to make our joint moves separate [from the Arab nation] but to act quickly and in a balanced manner because if the present situation continues, the world will forget and neglect us. He added that the Jordanian-Palestinian moves are based on a special relationship that is both historical and geographic.

On the recent meeting between His Majesty King Husayn on the one hand and Al-Sa'ih and 'Arafat on the other, he said that the PLO chairman's meetings with His Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian officials are routine meetings. 'Arafat briefed his majesty on his recent Arab tour and on the Arab states' stands toward the Jordanian-Palestinian moves. He said: Jordan is open-minded; it wants to listen and to search so that issues will be clear in the next phase.

Regarding peaceful solutions on the international level, Al-Sa'ih said: There have been no proposals for peaceful solutions that we as Palestinians and Jordanians can accept. Both of us care for our national interests and the Palestinian cause. He asserted that it is not possible to concede Jerusalem or any of the Palestinian people's rights.

Regarding the new building in which the PNC and the PLO Central Council will be housed, Al-Sa'ih said that work is under way to prepare the building; it will be the headquarters for the Central Council, of which 'Arafat is chairman. He said he informed all PNC members, both those who attended the PNC session and those who did not, of these plans and said that they will move into the new building as soon as it is ready. He said: We are looking for employees.

Al-Sa'ih pointed out that contacts with all PNC members will continue so that they may be informed on Palestinian events, particularly in the occupied territory, so that every member will feel that he is in close contact with the PNC.

The new PNC will have a special secretariat that employs translators to monitor Arab and world news about the Palestinian problem and all related reports. A special wing will be prepared for the committees that were approved by the PNC. Al-Sa'ih said part of the building will be for the Palestinian National Fund, whose chairman will soon arrive to furnish his section and begin his duties. Al-Sa'ih also said that the APU as well as the IPU secretariats have been informed of the decisions of the PNC session.

Abu Iyad Warns of Retaliation for Assassinations

GF261838 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 25 Dec 84 p 4

[Excerpt] Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, has warned that the Palestinian leadership will strongly retaliate against any assassination attempts on Palestinian leaders, particularly directors of PLO offices. He said that this retaliation will be directed only at those who plot the assassinations and not the Palestinian parties which carry them out.

Abu Iyad criticized the Kuwaiti press, saying that it is still adopting a negative stand toward the Palestinian march.

His remarks were made in a speech at a meeting of the Palestinian women's union in Al-Jabriyah. The meeting was attended by 'Awni Batash, director of the PLO office in Kuwait, and Siham Sukar, chairman of the General Union of Palestinian Women in Kuwait.

Abu Iyad reiterated Fatah's call for national unity through dialogue among the factions of the Palestinian revolution, and the convening of a comprehensive emergency session of the PNC to include all resistance factions.

Commenting on the future of the Palestinians, Abu Iyad said: "The struggle needs a pillar to lean on, so an independent Palestinian state must be established from which the struggle will begin." Abu Iyad defended the current flexible Palestinian action. He said that this flexibility does not mean slackness.

PLO Radio Cites AL-QUDS in Israeli Withdrawal

JN261929 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 26 Dec 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Lebanon's Lesson," the newspaper *AL-QUDS* says: More people in the Israeli Government and Knesset are calling for a unilateral withdrawal from the Lebanese territories without awaiting the outcome of the 2-month-old Al-Naqurah talks between Lebanon and Israel. These advocates are now convinced that occupation will not serve Israel's interests. True, this conviction has come rather late; however, the important thing is that the idea of withdrawal now has supporters, and talk about Israel's gains from the so-called Peace for Galilee Operation has become an illusion. It has also been established that solving the Palestine question in the Lebanese arena is impossible, and that avoiding any dealing with the Palestinians will only complicate matters. Lebanon's lesson should also be applied to the 17-year-old occupation of Arab territories. Israel must acknowledge international public opinion.

AL-QUDS asks: What does Israel hope to gain by its continued occupation of and imposition of its willpower on the occupied areas? The paper answers: The present circumstances are ripe for laying the foundations of a just and comprehensive peace. However, this step first calls for recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights by ending the occupation and giving them the right to self-detemination.

Resistance Operations in South Lebanon

JN261806 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men continue to intensify their operations against the personnel and equipment of the Zionist invasion forces as well as the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting more losses in lives and equipment on them.

A group of resistance men attacked a Zionist military patrol yesterday on the Al-Zahrani-Tyre road in occupied southern Lebanon. A military jeep was destroyed and its occupants were killed or wounded in this attack which was carried out with rockets and automatic weapons.

Another group of resistance men used rockets and automatic weapons yesterday to attack a Zionist military patrol on the Al-Za'rur-Al-Duwayyir road in occupied southern Lebanon. An enemy half-track vehicle was destroyed and another was damaged. All of their occupants were either killed or wounded in this attack.

Resistance men set off an explosive charge yesterday outside an office belonging to agent militias near the entrance to the 'Ayn al-Hulwah Palestinian camp. The charge, which was activated with an electric cord, killed or wounded several members of the agent militias. The office was also heavily damaged.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the three incidents, but did not disclose his losses. He said that his forces and members of the agent militias immediately mounted a large-scale search campaign. They detained a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese on the pretext of the complicity with the resistance men.

WAKH Interviews Kuwaiti Oil Minister

GF260900 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0742 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Dec (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Finance and Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi al-Sabah has warned against the collapse of oil prices and the deterioration of the international oil market situation if OPEC does not succeed at its meeting Thursday in Geneva in forming a control body to oversee production quotas and prices among the organization's members. He also warned Britain and Norway against making any reductions in the price of their oil and said if they do that "they will harm themselves." In his statement to WAM, the Kuwaiti oil minister defended his country's stand on current developments in the petroleum market and said: No one can point a finger of accusation at Kuwait.

He stressed that OPEC will change completely and will achieve an important leap in its history if the proposed control body becomes effective and efficient. He warned against the danger of not forming the control body, stressing that this will result in the collapse of oil prices and the deterioration of the oil market situation.

OPEC's 72d ministerial council suspended its meetings over the weekend in order to hold more consultations and seek the advice of members on the formation of a control body. The conference will resume meetings in Geneva Thursday in order to discuss the formation of the body.

The Kuwaiti finance and oil minister expressed optimism over the formation of the control body on Thursday. He pointed out that the options before the conference are tough, including the sacrifice ofregional interests in order to protect the income of the members, and the temptation to increase production. He warned against increasing production and stressed that if this option were exercised, prices would decrease and would not be compensated for by any increase in production.

Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah stressed that if the conference implements its agenda with justice, the problem of differentials will be solved in a spirit of wisdom and cooperation. He said that the fundamental test of seriousness is the implementation of an effective control system, and if the conference is successful in accomplishing this task, all the remaining topics will be easily resolved.

Regarding the most serious method of resolving the problem of differentials in light of reports indicating that Kuwait is the beneficiary from the present differentials, he said: "I cannot specify a solution to this problem now." He added: "Kuwait reduced its production of crude by its own choice, and if it were really benefiting it would not have done so."

The Kuwaiti finance and oil minister added: "Whoever wants to hint directly or indirectly that Kuwait benefits from a certain situation must be very careful because it is difficult to compare his position with the sacrifices Kuwait has continued to make since the formation of OPEC and until today."

Reports indicate in this regard that Kuwait is still producing about 850,000 barrels of crude a day, which is 100,000 barrels less that its quota of 950,000 barrels per day according to the new OPEC ceiling of 16 million barrels a day.

The Kuwaiti finance and oil minister again refused to talk about the differentials and declined to give his opinion regarding the differences that emerged during the conference last week on whether to solve the problem of differentials gradually or at one shot. He said: "I will not speak about this topic until I see that the control issue has been resolved."

Asked about the organization's stand if Britain and Norway decide to reduce the price of their oil for next month once the OPEC conference is over, he stressed that if OPEC proves, in its conference, to be sufficiently serious, Britain and Norway will not want to reduce their prices just for the sake of doing so. He said: "But if this is their intention, then let them reap the consequences." He added: "But I can only imagine that the matter is in OPEC's hands, and if its members prove to be serious, this will have a great impact on the oil market, and all producing countries will hurry to benefit from this situation in order to protect prices.

Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Saban disclosed that during its recent ministerial conference held in Geneva toward the end of October, OPEC wanted to encourage the industrial states and international companies to withdraw from the strategic stocks and utilize this step so that prices will stablize in the future. He added: "Perhaps our mistake as OPEC countries was to allow these states to increase their stocks, thus magnifying our mistakes." He stressed that if OPEC were able to bear, at this stage, the pressures resulting from a step by the industrial and oil consuming countries to withdraw oil from their strategic stocks, OPEC would have capitalized on this step for its own benefit in the future.

Asked about the possibility of holding serious dialogues with the non-OPEC producing countries and with the industrial states after most of OPEC's previous dialogues with them have failed, the Kuwaiti finance and oil minister said it is unfair to say that the dialogue or various dialogues with the non-OPEC producing countries were totally unsuccessful. He pointed out in this regard the success of the dialogues which OPEC held with Mexico and Egypt and said: "Even the dialogue with Britain in February 1982 was successful."

He affirmed that if the organization can unite its ranks, it will be in a position to hold a dialogue with these countries in a serious fashion; but if it cannot unite its ranks, OPEC must not lay the burden on others.

He avoided mentioning the possibility of continuing to grant the exceptions that were approved by the recent OPEC conference on 26 October in Geneva, and the possibility of granting similar exceptions to other countries within OPEC because they were harmed by the prevailing circumstances in the oil market. He said: "I cannot speak about this matter."

The previous ministerial conference had actually allowed Nigeria to produce about 150,000 barrels in excess of its quota. And when the production ceiling was reduced from 17.5 million to 16 million barrels a day during the recent consultative confer-

ence, no change was made in its quota. Furthermore, it was permitted to sell its crude oil at the price of $28 per barrel.

The Kuwaiti finance and oil minister stressed toward the end of his statement that OPEC is currently consolidating its ranks and imposing a control system on the members to protect them from themselves. In this way they will be able to tackle all debatable questions, particularly the questions of protecting oil prices and increasing the production ceiling.

KUNA: Further Remarks

LD261742 Kuwait KUNA in English 1618 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi Dec 26 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Finance and Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah left for home early today after delivering a written message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from Kuwait's Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah dealing with OPEC efforts to stabilize the oil market.

The UAE president also received a similar message from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, carried by its oil minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, who also arrived in Abu Dhabi last night as part of intensive contacts among OPEC officials on a proposed "supranational" body to police oil dealing in all member-states.

Light crude exporters, such as the UAE, Libya, Algeria and Nigeria have demanded a "just and immediate" solution that would narrow the $4.5 gap between the prices of heavy and light crudes to make them more competitive in the market. These countries have repeatedly asked that prices of heavy crude, traditionally exported by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, be increased by at least $1.25 a barrel to end the downward pressures on light crude prices.

Pressed to verify his country's position on the issue of differentials, Shaykh 'Ali said, "I cannot define a precise view not to solve this problem." [as received] But he defended Kuwait's position, which he stressed was "always in the forefront of countries which sacrificed to save the organization." "No one can direct an accusing finger on Kuwait," Shaykh 'Ali said. He said Kuwait was now producing about 850,000 barrels a day against its quota of 900,000 b/d approved by OPEC ministers Oct 31 to defend official prices.

Shaykh 'Ali said OPEC at its meeting in Geneva Oct 31 has "encouraged" the industrialized countries to continue destocking from their strategic inventories to "invest the resulting situation in the future." "Our fault as OPEC nations is that we have allowed these countries to build their stocks," he explained. According to the Kuwaiti minister, if OPEC was able to resist the pressures of the continued destocking, it would undoubtedly help the organization in the future.

These views were also shared by Shaykh Yamani, who said last week that OPEC would find itself in a better situation during the first quarter of next year, when demand on oil usually drops.

Asked about the outcome of the current dialogue between OPEC and non-OPEC producers, Shaykh 'Ali said it would be "unjust to say that the dialogue with these countries have all failed." He cited the positive attitude of Mexico and Egypt, which have joined OPEC in reducing their production levels to strengthen oil prices.

He added that OPEC would be able to conduct a more serious and productive dialogue with Britain and Norway if its members were united in their action.

KUNA Cites Algerian Oil Minister on Quotas

LD262358 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Geneva, 26 Dec (KUNA) — Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi called on the OPEC members to adopt penalty measures and punishments against countries violating the organization's pricing and production resolutions.

On his arrival here to participate in the OPEC ministers conference which will begin work tomorrow, Mr Nabi told KUNA that Algeria approves OPEC's suggestions on the adoption of supervisory and penalty measures for investigating the extent of adherence of each member country to its production quota. Mr Nabi expressed his hope that all the heads of the member countries will accept the principle of OPEC supervision of member's export and production.

Mr Nabi revealed that Algeria asked OPEC to apply similar measures nearly a year ago. He said that Algeria has also asked for deterrent punishments for the countries which violate the organization's pricing and production resolutions, including expulsion.

KUWAIT

AL-WATAN Discusses Issue of Political Parties

GF251316 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 23 Dec 84 p 7

[Article by Ahmad al-Baghdadi: "No Democracy Without Political Parties"]

[Excerpts] During the past week, the issue of political parties was lightly touched upon in the local press. Unfortunately, many people, including students at Kuwait University, regard political parties as a danger and a devastation, and believe that their existence fragments society. They also hold other views, which we believe have their source in ignorance and lack of knowledge about the nature of the political parties, their function, and what they can achieve on the level of social stability in various dimensions. The issue of political parties reminds me of the story of early man when he discovered fire and was at first afraid of it because it hurt him, but when he discovered its uses and learned how to use it, it brought him warmth, security, stability, and peace. Afterward, he could not live without it.

Let us decide, first of all, that the democracy we have chosen is not our unique brand. Democratic rules and ideologies began in the Western world and diffused into other societies, because they were the best systems for political and social development. As our societies have unique historical characteristics which differ from those of the European societies, our ruling regimes have exploited the situation to their advantage. These regimes have endeavored to concoct a system of government permiting them maximum control. As a result, these societies have lost their political identity.

Some of these regimes have imposed restrictions on political party activities, some have limited the number of political parties, and some have permitted political party activities on certain conditions which have proved to be burdensome. In short, the democracy adopted by Third World countries is known as the democracy of cages, because the authorities decide on the amount and direction of political activities.

We should discuss the issue of political parties openly, and everybody should contribute to this discussion by expressing his opinion in the press, in lectures, and in scientific surveys free from any interference by executive authorities. In conclusion, we can say that without the channel of the legitimate political parties we will just be grumbling in vain between four walls. Democracy will continue to retreat, leaving us in pain and bitterness.

QATAR

Saudi Defense Minister Arrives, Meets With Amir

GF261310 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received at his office today His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and general inspector.

QNA has learned that during this fraternal meeting they reviewed the situation in the region in particular, and the current Arab situation in general, in addition to the further development and consolidation of existing relations between the two fraternal and countries and peoples.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense; 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister of information; Brigadier General Muhammad ibn 'Abdallah al-'Atiyah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces; 'Abdallah Khalifah al-'Atiyah, director of the office of the heir apparent and defense minister; 'Abd al-Muhsin Sulayman al-Zayd, Saudi ambassador in Doha; and members of the delegation accompanying the guest.

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and general inspector, arrived in Doha at noon today on a 2-day official visit to the state of Qatar. Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense, was at the head of those who received his brother His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

On arrival at the Doha international airport at 1130 today, the prominent guest was also received by the shaykhs and ministers, the chairman of the Advisory Council, the deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the chief of staff, the deputy police director, the Saudi ambassador, the deputy chairman of the Advisory Council, senior civilian and military officials, and members of the Saudi Embassy in Doha.

Holds Talks With Counterpart

GF271104 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Doha, 27 Dec (WAKH) — Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, and Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general, held official talks here this morning in the presence of the delegations of both countries. The talks focused on Gulf and Arab issues.

Viewpoints were also exchanged on the current situation in the region. Bilateral relations and the means to bolster them in all fields were also reviewed.

UAE

Vice President Returns From Pakistan

GF261818 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Dubayy, 26 Dec (WAKH) — UAE Vice President and Prime Minister Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum returned here today from Karachi following a short visit to Pakistan.

He was received by Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid, deputy prime minister and crown prince of Dubayy, Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid, minister of finance and industry; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid, minister of defence; shaykhs and senior officials.

Foreign Minister Returns From Pakistan

GF271100 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Dec (WAKH) — Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs in the UAE, returned to Abu Dhabi early this morning.

During a brief visit to Pakistan he delivered a message from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to Pakistani President Ziaul Haq on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Saudi Petroleum Minister Concludes Visit to UAE

GF261112 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, left the country at noon today following a short visit to the UAE during which he delivered a message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from his brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia. The message dealt with the petroleum questions on the agenda of OPEC conference which will resume meetings in Geneva tomorrow.

He was seen off at the airport by Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources; and Salih al-Sulayman al-Fawzan, Saudi ambassador to the UAE.

Shaykh Yamani stated that his consultations on the situation in the petroleum market which he held with UAE officials were very useful and that their results will show up during OPEC meeting to bebe held tomorrow, Thursday. In a statement to WAM, he said these consultations will seriously and effectively contribute to the emergence of a collective and unified stand on all the questions listed on the conference's agenda.

Petroleum Minister Leaves for Geneva OPEC Conference

GF261110 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, left the country today for Geneva to take part in 72d OPEC conference which resumes tomorrow, Thursday, to continue discussing the situation in the petroleum market and the decisions to be adopted by OPEC to deal with the current situation in the oil market and to defend OPEC oil prices.

In a statement to WAM, he stressed the importance of the commitment by OPEC members to the production quota and prices and to the importance of settling the problem of differentials and forming a control body so that OPEC can continue playing an effective role in the oil market.

He stressed the importance of dialogue with the non-OPEC producing countries, particularly with Britain and Norway, in order to prevent a collapse in oil prices which will benefit none of the producing countries.

YAR

President Salih Comments on ICO Conference

NC252141 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 Dec 84

[Text] YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih today made an exclusive statement to our radio correspondent in Sanaa in which he said that Egypt undoubtedly carries weight in the Islamic and Arab arenas.

Replying to a question on the results of the recent ICO foreign ministers conference in Sanaa, the YAR president said that the conference achieved the desired results. He expressed his belief that some of the reasons for the success of this session were: The interaction and sense of responsibility by the heads and members of the delegations that participated in the meeting, and the serious and sincere search for solutions to the problems that have faced and are facing the Islamic countries. He also pointed to the method adopted by the conference to overcome the difficulties facing the Islamic Good Offices Committee in order to continue its task, the support for the Palestinian issue, and the resolutions on increasing cooperation among the Islamic countries.

Regarding the future of the ICO, the president said: We regard every meeting that gathers the sons of the Islamic nation as auspicious because it provides the opportunity for dialogue, discussions, exchanges of opinions, and consultations.

Replying to a question on cooperation between Egypt and the YAR, the president said: The opportunities for cooperation between the two fraternal peoples are vast and numerous, especially in the educational and cultural areas.

Chief of Staff Attends Training Camp Ceremony

GF261912 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Excerpt] The graduation of a new specialized team and the end of the training year were celebrated at the Khalid ibn Walid Camp today. The celebration was attended by Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of staff and member of the Standing Committee; a number of officials; and officers of the Armed Security Forces.

The members of the camp carried out a tactical plan, following which the commander of the camp delivered a speech.

Briefs

Ambassador to India — A presidential decree was issued today appointing Yahya Baydar al-Rawdi as YAR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to India. [Summary] [*Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Dec 84 GF*]

Prime Minister Receives France's Cheysson
NC261632 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1612 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Dec (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali received Claude Cheysson, former French minister of external relations, who is visiting Cairo, in his office today. They reviewed developments in the Middle East situation and various aspects of Egyptian-French cooperation.

Mubarak Receives Iraqi Trade Union Delegation
NC261147 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received at Al-'Urubah Palace this morning a delegation from the Iraqi Workers Trade Union General Federation which is currently visiting Cairo, headed by Sa'dallah 'Atiyah, member of the Workers Bureau and workers secretary in the Iraqi Ba'th Party.

The meeting was attended by Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, minister of manpower and training; Qasim Jasim al-Sharif, member of the Central Workers Bureau at the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and member of the Iraqi National Council; and Samir Najm, head of the Iraqi Interests Section in Egypt.

After the 1-hour meeting Sa'dallah 'Atiyah said that the meeting was a crowning of the invitation extended by the Egyptian Workers Trade Union General Federation to the big rally that will be held in support of Iraq against the 5 years of Iranian aggression. 'Atiyah described his meeting with President Mubarak as "historic" and said the Iraqi delegation expressed gratitude to and appreciation for the Egyptian leadership represented by President Husni Mubarak and all the officials in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

'Atiyah also said the Iraqi delegation expressed to President Mubarak its gratitude for Egypt's stances, which have demonstrated Arab genuineness throughout history. He pointed out that Egypt has played an honorable role regarding all the Arab nation's issues, particularly the war Iraq is fighting with Iran. He said that from the first day of the war with Iran his country has supported all the generous calls by the Arab and world organizations to halt it. He added that his country also supports any solution aimed at halting this war and underlined Iran's obdurate attitude toward doing so.

'Atiyah affirmed that the facilities given to the Egyptian workers in Iraq are numerous. He said the Egyptian workers enjoy many concessions, because the Iraqi people feel that the Egyptian workers working in Iraq are participating in the development process side by side with their Iraqi brothers.

In a similar statement Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad said after the meeting that the Iraqi delegation's visit underlines the strong fraternal relations between Iraq and Egypt. He pointed out that the visit is in response to an invitation by the Egyptian workers trade unions to an information week at which the Egyptian workers will explain the dimensions and gravity of the war raging in the Gulf and Iran's unresponsiveness to the calls for peace. He emphasized that the Egyptian people are against the shedding of blood and all that is taking place against the Iraqi and Iranian peoples. He said: We shall exert our utmost efforts not only on the Egyptian and Iraqi levels but also on the international trade union level to see that pressure is exerted to achieve peace in this area.

The iraqi delegation arrived in Cairo last Saturday on a visit to Egypt lasting several days.

AL-AHALI Urges Termination of U.S. Facilities
PM270939 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 19 Dec 84 p 1

[Editorial: "The Facilities and the Bases"]

[Text] During his meeting with *AL-AHRAM*'s editors and reporters President Mubarak insisted that there are no U.S. or foreign bases in Egypt. He refuted all U.S. press claims regarding Ra's Banas.

We fully appreciate President Mubarak's steady denial of the presence of any U.S. or other foreign bases in Egypt and we believe that he considers that allowing such bases would be a setback for Egypt's independence, national will, and nonaligned role.

President Mubarak, however, has not denied the presence of U.S. facilities in Egypt — facilities he inherited from former President al-Sadat — or that he has allowed more facilities. He also has not denied the presence of foreign military experts who provide training in the use of modern weapons.

AL-AHALI welcomes President Mubarak's adamant denial on the bases but it feels that, out of concern for Egypt's independence and will, it should say a few words about the facilities. The dividing line between military facilities and foreign bases is very thin indeed. The facilities are not military bases in the traditional sense of the word but they nowadays serve the same purpose. Modern military technology has rendered fixed military bases unnecessary. That is why the United States has invented the so-called Rapid Deployment Force which can accomplish the missions assigned to it without having to be permanently deployed in bases outside the United States. That is why we consider the presence of foreign military experts and facilities and stores in some military bases to be a service to the U.S. world strategy, and that seriously undermines Egypt's nonaligned position, that is if Egypt is really interested in maintaining its international relations and effective role in the service of peace and security in Egypt and the region.

We believe that these facilities were granted on Al-Sadat's orders and not because of concern for Egypt's security, which is in fact threatened by Zionist aggressive designs supported by the United States.

The U.S. interests in the region are a U.S., not an Egyptian, affair. The question of these facilities and their link to U.S. strategy, which has clearly aligned itself fully with Israel, should be high on the Egyptian and regional national agendas. If Egyptian national objectives and Arab objectives are to be achieved termination of these facilities is necessary, because it would

change the balance of forces in the region and the world and serve the interests of Egypt and the Arab nation.

AL-AHRAM on 'Barbaric' Israelis In Lebanon

PM270940 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 21 Dec 84 p 3

[Editorial: "The Risks Involved in the Israeli Attitude"]

[Text] While Israel was moaning about the possible collapse of the Lebanese-Israeli military negotiations in Al-Naqurah on arrangements for its withdrawal from southern Lebanon, and while it was holding the Lebanese side responsible for lack of progress in the negotiations and threatening to take unilateral steps, the Israeli forces were launching the ugliest barbaric campaign against the Shi'ite Muslim inhabitants of the villages of southern Lebanon and using the basest and cruelest methods of intimidation, terrorism, and torture.

This barbaric Israeli attitude confirms that the Tel Aviv rulers have neither learned the lessons of history nor the lessons of their own experience in the Lebanese quagmire. These lessons tell us that no amount of coercion and terrorism by any occupation or invasion force has ever weakened the just and legitimate resistance of nations who reject occupation and resist invasion. The opposite was true in the past and it still is. The more coercion and terrorizing the greater the resistance.

This inhumane Israeli conduct confirms that the Israeli leaders are making demands and conditions at Al-Naqurah in order to reap the fruit of their invasion of Lebanon. They not only want that, but are under the illusion that they can put fear and despair in the Arab hearts to give the false and unfair impression that Israeli power rules supreme in the region and that the idea that an Arab force could be mobilized to face it should be abandoned.

Israel is certainly making a cardinal mistake if it thinks that it can turn these illusions into realities. It is making an even bigger mistake if it imagines that the long-arm policy can give it security and stability in the region. It is in Israel's interest to realize that security and stability cannot be one-sided, and that the only guarantee for Israel's security and stability is that it should, before it is too late, realize the importance of accepting peaceful coexistence with its neighbors on the basis of recognition of the legitimate rights of all the peoples of the region, especially the Palestinian people.

Briefs

Agreements With USSR, France — Cairo, 25 Dec (MENA) — Engineer 'Adil al-Mawzi, chairman of the board of directors of the Al-Nasr company for the manufacture of coke and basic chemicals, said that agreements were signed with the Soviet Union and France today. Under the first agreement the Soviet Union will supply equipment and spare parts worth 2 million pounds to be used in the production of coke. The supplies will start at the beginning of next year. A Soviet industrial delegation is currently visiting Cairo for this purpose. Under the second agreement France will participate in establishing a new factory for the production of naphthalene with a capacity of 500 tons annually and increasing the production of this commodity from 1,500 tons to 2,000 tons annually. Equipment for this factory will begin arriving before the middle of next month and will cost 1 million pounds to be repaid over 5 years. [Excerpt][*Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 25 Dec 84 NC*]

Communique No. 1,692 on 25-26 Dec Operations

JN261740 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Communique No 1,692 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 December 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In fulfillment of our Armed Forces' pledge to the people and to their leader that they would pursue the barbaric groups, both now and in the future, in order to defend great Iraq, its history, and the happiness, security, and loftiness of its sons, our Armed Forces have continued to deal crushing blows to those who have sought to harm our country and who have stupidly and vilely refused to respond to the call for peace. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Using artiliery and mortars, our forward units dealt intensive blows to enemy vehicles, artillery positions, and engineering activities in the operational sector east of Basra. Our forward units' blows were fierce and effective, and columns of smoke were seen billowing from the targets hit. Our forces inflicted losses in life and equipment on the enemy. One hardware stockpile and two infantry positions, whose occupants were either killed or wounded, were destroyed, and one vehicle carrying a 106-mm gun was hit. The enemy was seen evacuating its losses.

2. A force belonging to our brave fighters ambushed an enemy boat in the Maysan sector. Our force opened fire on the boat as it approached the ambush, destroying the boat and killing four of its occupants. Our force returned to its positions without any incident.

3. An enemy troop concentration tried to approach one of our forward units' positions in the central sectpr of the battlefield. Our valiant fighters confronted it and pounded it with all types of weapons. Two were killed, and the others fled. In another area of the same sector, our forward units used their weapons to pound several enemy positions, destroying one infantry position and one enemy observation post.

4. One was killed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 December 1984

'Iranian Aircraft' Hit Spanish Tanker 26 Dec

JN261924 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1910 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Iranian aircraft attacked a Spanish oil tanker today while it was in territorial waters [as heard] in the Arab Gulf. Two missiles were fired that hit the tanker's deck. Maritime sources in Bahrain reported that fire engulfed the 238,959 ton Spanish tanker *Aragon*. The sources added that the *Aragon* was heading toward the Suadi port of Ra's Tanura to transport crude oil. Iranian planes attacked the Indian oil tanker *Kanchenjunga* in the middle of the Arab Gulf yesterday while it was carrying 200,000 tons of Saudi crude oil. Flames engulfed part of the tanker.

Commander Predicts Destruction of 'New Aggression'

JN270624 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Baghdad, 27 (INA) — The commander of the IV Army Corps in the southern sector has said that the corps' units are now fully prepared to destroy any likely Iranian aggression.

In a statement to *AL-QADISIYAH* newspaper, issued by the Defense Ministry and published here today, he added that the Iraqi reply to this aggression will be so tough that it will expedite the end of the Iranian regime.

The military commander indicated that the corps' monitoring organs are accurately observing the Iranian forces' preparations for aggression and asserted: We will exact on them the punishment they deserve as we did in the battles waged east of Basra last February.

He pointed out that the Iranian units' deceptive methods have been exposed and are well known to the IV Army Corps. He also emphasized that the Iranian units that will participate in the aggression will experience a real catastrophe.

The IV Army Corps commander said that the aim in confronting the new aggression will be to crush the aggressor forces and all their remaining weapons and equipment.

Shanshal Returns From Moscow 25 Dec

JN251632 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 25 Dec 84

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Dec (INA) — Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, Iraqi minister of state for military affairs, and his accompanying delegation returned to Baghdad from Moscow this afternoon after participating in the funeral of the late USSR Defense Minister Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov. Staff Gen Shanshal conveyed the condolences of President Saddam Husayn and Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, to the Soviet command and the family of the deceased.

During the visit, Shanshal met with the new USSR Defense Minister Marshal Sergey Sokolov and discussed with him the advanced relations which exist between the two friendly countries.

Jordan's Transportation Minister Makes Official Visit

Arrives 24 Dec

JN240914 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Text] Baghdad — Farhi 'Ubayd, Jordanian minister of transportation, arrived in Baghdad last night at the head of a delegation on a visit to the country.

During the visit, Farhi 'Ubayd will hold talks on the activities of the Iraqi-Jordanian land transportation company for the current year and its future plans, as well as the prospects of developing cooperative relations between the two fraternal countries in the

field of transportation and communications. 'Ubayd was received at the airport by 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim, minister of transport and communications, the ministry's two under secretaries, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Received by Ramadan

JN241635 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1528 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Dec (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Farhi 'Ubayd, Jordanian minister of transportation, and his delegatioon here today. The two sides discussed relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to develop them.

Meets With Transport Minister

JN241733 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Text] Transport and Communications Minister 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim received Jordanian Transportation Minister Farhi 'Ubayd and his delegation this morning. They discussed ways of strengthening and developing cooperation between the two fraternal countries in the fields of transportation and communications in serving Arab interests. The meeting was attended by the two under secretaries of the ministry and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Confers With Trade Minister

JN251733 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Dec 84

[Text] Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, received Farhi 'Ubayd, Jordanian transportation minister, and his accompanying delegation this morning. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed economic relations between the two fraternal countries and ways of promoting them in the service of the Arab nation's interest. The meeting was attended by the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Transport Company Minutes Signed

JN261351 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Baghdad — The minutes of the ninth meeting of the general assembly of the Jordanian-Iraqi Land Transportation Company were signed at the Iraqi Ministry of Transport and Communications today. The minutes were signed for the Jordanian side by Farhi 'Ubayd, minister of transportation, and for the Iraqi side by 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim, minister of transport and communications.

The minutes deal with following up the company's work, organizing the training of cadres, improving the company's technical standards, and drawing up the company's future plans.

Aziz Sends Message to Lebanon's Karami

JN261354 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1335 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Beirut, 26 Dec (INA) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Rashid Karami has received a written message from Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The message was delivered by the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Beirut and deals with the Iranian regime's renunciation of the resolutions adopted by the Islamic foreign ministers conference that convened in Sanaa earlier this month. The conference had called on the two parties to fully and sincerely cooperate with the Islamic Good Offices Committee for immediately ending the war and settling the dispute between the two countries on just and honorable bases.

AL-THAWRAH Comments on OPEC Geneva Meetings

JN270800 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0650 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Dec (INA) — An Iraqi newspaper has called on OPEC oil ministers to maintain the unity of their organization as well as to bolster its position and restore its status and effective role in stabilizing the world oil market.

In an article marking the beginning of the OPEC ministers' meetings in Geneva today, the newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* warns that the International Energy Agency, led by the United States, is trying to weaken and fragment OPEC and single out its states in an attempt to destroy the gains achieved through its solidarity and unified stands.

It indicates that the current meeting is one of OPEC's most serious and important meetings and conferences because of the pressures being exerted on it aimed at making it relinquish its establishing its production and pricing policy.

Concluding, *AL-THAWRAH* stresses that OPEC member states should assume their responsibilities toward foiling the aims of the international monopolies by overcoming their differences and proceeding from their collective welfare in both their stands and decisions.

Walid Junblatt Arrives in Amman on Visit
JN270752 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 27 Dec 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party and Lebanese minister of public works, arrived in Amman yesterday morning on a visit of several days to Jordan. During the past 2 days, Junblatt held talks with senior Syrian officials concerning the deployment of the Lebanese Army along the southern coast.

Al-Masri on Peres Peace Call, New Moves
JN231238 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 23 Dec 84 pp 1, 20

[Text] London — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has said that the Jordanian-Palestinian formula of joint action will be submitted to the Arab summit meetings for discussion and approval before being proposed at international forums within the framework of an extensive diplomatic move to find a suitable solution to the Middle East crisis.

In a statement to the magazine *AL-TADAMUN*, to be published on Saturday, Al-Masri said that despite the languor in the Jordanian-Syrian relations, Damascus is not absent from the political moves regarding the convening of an international Middle East conference. He indicated that Syria is among the most prominent supporters of convening this conference.

Answering a question on Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' call for holding a dialogue with Jordan, Al-Masri affirmed Jordan's rejection of such calls because by making these calls, the Zionist entity merely aims at involving Jordan in a separate solution, which Jordan rejects just as it rejected the Camp David agreements.

The Jordanian minister affirmed that the PLO would participate in the proposed international conference as an independent side. He said that if the United States and the Israeli entity continue to insist on rejecting the PLO's participation, Jordan and the PLO will resort to the Arab countries in order to seek another formula.

The Jordanian minister indicated that France is qualified to play a bigger role in trying to resolve the Middle East crisis because it is a permanent member of the Security Council and EEC member.

PRC Official Says Jordan Has Not Asked for Arms
JN240814 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 24 Dec 84 p 1

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — China is ready to consider any Jordanian request for arms or military assistance but so far the Kingdom has not made any approach in this regard, a well-placed Chinese official said Sunday. The official, who preferred to remain anonymous, said: "Any request by the Kingdom will seriously be discussed by the Chinese Government, not only militarily but also in other fields."

In a telephone interview with the *JORDAN TIMES*, the official, commenting on the current five-day official visit by a high-level Chinese military delegation, said the visit came to further strengthen cooperation ties and bilateral relations. During a state vist last March by Chinese President Li Xiannian, a senior Chinese official accompanying President Li said his country would assist Jordan in the formation of a people's Army.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Kung Ta-fei had said then that China was ready to assist Jordan with what it could in the struggle to liberate the Israeli-occupied Arab territories. The official said the visiting delegation, led by Deputy Chief of Staff Gen. He Zhengwen, in the Chinese People's Liberation Army, will leave Amman Wednesday for Oman were they are expected to hold talks on military cooperation.

The seven-member Chinese delegation was received Saturday by His Majesty King Husayn and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Gen. al-Sharif Zayd Ibn Shakir and other military officials.

China has good relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Chinese officials have recently met with PLO officials in Beijing. It is very likely that a meeting might take place between the visiting Chinese delegation and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat who arrived in Amman Sunday.

A Turkish armed forces delegation is also on an official visit to Jordan for military cooperation talks with high-ranking Jordanian military officials. The delegation was received Saturday by Gen. al-Sharif Zayd at the army headquarters.

The Chinese delegation Sunday visited the Martyr's Monument and the Royal Military Academy. They were later guests at a dinner banquet held in their honour by Army Inspector General Maj. Gen. Ahmad 'Ala 'al-Din.

Briefs

Ambassador's Appointment to Egypt — Amman, 25 Dec (PETRA) — A royal decreee has been issued approving the Cabinet's decision to appoint Husayn Hamami as Jordan's ambassador to Egypt. [Text] [*Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 25 Dec 84 JN*]

Somali Ambassador Approved — Amman — The Council of Ministers has approved the nomination of 'Abd al-Hajj 'Abd al-Rahman as ambassador of the Somali Republic to Jordan. It is worth noting that Jordan and Somalia have diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level. [Text] [*Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Dec 84 p 1 JN*]

Karami, Al-Huss on Cabinet Approval of Coastal Plan

NC261946 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami received Labor and Education Minister Dr Salim al-Huss at his house at 1930 today. The two assessed the results of today's Cabinet session, particularly in terms of implementation of the security plan for the coastal area and Iqlim al-Kharrub.

After their meeting, Minister Al-Huss said: Prime Minister Karami and I discussed the results of the Cabinet session, particularly the Cabinet's decision to approve the plan for the coastal area and Iqlim al-Kharrub, and to authorize the military council to decide, as soon as possible, the hour to begin its implementation.

He added: The Cabinet session was very useful in clearing up impediments to that implementation. The situation has become clear, and there is no more reason to delay.

Minister Al-Huss also referred to the Israeli factor, which, he said, causes us anxiety. The shelling to which peaceful villages in Iqlim al-Kharrub have been subjected and which produced a large number of casualties is indicative of the obstacles that Israel can use to hinder the plan; another example of such obstacles were the serious kidnappings that took place in the village of Jun.

Minister Al-Huss concluded: In any event, the plan for the coastal road and Iqlim al-Kharrub has been accompanied by a collective commitment, which must be employed in confronting any attempt by the enemy or his agents to foil the plan.

Seven PSP Conditions Impede Security Plan

NC261552 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Seven new conditions put forth by the Progressive Socialist Party have prevented the ratification of the security plan for the coastal area and Iqlim al-Kharrub. Thus, the Military Council was authorized by the Cabinet today to deal with the obstacles resulting from these conditions and to hold the necessary meetings to resolve the problem. The most significant of these seven conditions is that the Lebanese Army's role in Iqlim al-Kharrub must be secondary; it should act only to assist the internal security forces in this area.

Minister Joseph al-Hashim has expressed opposition to these demands, stressing that the Army must be the focal and basic point in any security arrangement in Iqlim al-Kharrub and in any other area in which it will deploy. He maintained that the Army should be the guarantor of the citizens' security and safety, and that its presence in the coastal area and in Iqlim al-Kharrub must not be subject to the conditions and guarantees of others, if the objective is really the liberation of Lebanese territory and the extension of legal authority to all parts of the country.

New Conditions Denied

NC270726 [Clandestine] Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Excerpt] An official source at the Progressive Socialist Party has termed as groundless the reports disseminated by the regime's sources about new PSP conditions regarding the security plan for the coastal road.

The source said that PSP leader Walid Junblatt gave unequivocal instructions to facilitate the implementation of this security plan. The PSP reservations were listed a month ago in a memorandum to the Military Council and have been settled during meetings between the regime's team, which consisted of Public Security Director Jamil Ni'mah, Presidential Adviser Michel Samahah, and Ibrahim al-Shuwayri, head of the Civil Service Council, and [PSP officials] Marwan Hamadah, Khalid Junblatt, and Akram Shuhayyib.

The PSP source said: The regime should talk to those who say we have set forth conditions and find out the truth from them. Unless, the source added, the above officials with whom the talks were held were not authorized to represent the regime at these meetings, which were held with the knowledge of the Cabinet and the president. We have learned, the source said, that the president said during the Cabinet meeting that the team who negotiated with us was not official.

The source said: We were stunned by the Phalangist stand. We were expecting the recently-formed Liaison Committee to meet, sign the agreement, and refer it to the Cabinet. This committee was not called to meet for some reason known only to the Phalangist Party and the regime. The Phalangists and the regime are trying to wash their hand of the agreement despite the fact that the Military Council confirmed it in its extraordinary meeting last Sunday.

Summit With Syria To Consider Coastal Plan

NC270635 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] At a time when Israel is declaring that there is no hope that the Al-Naqurah negotiations will succeed, and at a time when Israeli leaders' statements are stressing the need for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon — the latest being Peres' statement in which he approves Rabin's plan, according to which the withdrawal will be effected in three stages — authoritative sources expect that a Lebanese-Syrian summit will take place within the next few hours.

The summit, according to the sources, will try to resolve the deteriorating situation in Lebanon, beginning with the Lebanese-Israeli military negotiations and ending with the pending political issues, the UNIFIL role, the situation in Iqlim al-Kharrub, and the Army deployment plan on the coastal line. This plan, as may be recalled, was not approved at the Cabinet session yesterday in view of the seven conditions put forth by the Progressive Socialist Party.

Possible Agenda Eyed

NC270701 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Excerpts] According to well-informed sources a Lebanese-Syrian summit might take place soon to deal with the critical situation resulting from the Progressive Socialist Party's rejection of the security plan for the coastal line and Iqlim al-Kharrub.

Semiofficial sources disclosed that the summit's agenda will include all the frozen and outstanding topics. The summit will also discuss other topics in a bid to end the present deadlock. The same sources said that the failure to reach an agreement over the coastal plan is the principal motivation for this summit.

As is known, the Cabinet yesterday failed to reach a positive result concerning the plan in view of the new PSP conditions. The conditions have been spelled out by a ministerial source as follows:

1. To place the Army in Iqlim al-Kharrub at the disposal of the Internal Security Forces.
2. To deploy a 100-men company in Shhim and the activities of this company to be contingent upon conditions.
3. To reject any presence of the Lebanese Army in the Christian villages of Iqlim al-Kharrub.
4. To deploy French observers in Al-Jiyah port alongside the Lebanese Army.
5. To extend the task of the Army Battalion which will be under the command of a Druze officer up to the Al-Sa'diyat, which is the main entrance to the Christian villages in the Iqlim.

Al-Jumayyil Leaves for Damascus

NC270951 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil left for Damascus this morning for a meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The talks will deal with political and security developments in the Lebanese arena.

PSP Delegation Meets With Tripoli Islamic Leader

NC261342 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] A delegation representing the Progressive Socialist Party leadership in the north today visited Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement. A meeting was held in which current issues and the unity of the national position were discussed.

After the 2-hour meeting, Shaykh Sha'ban said: We asked the delegation to convey Tripoli's greetings to Brother Walid Junblatt and our wish to cooperate with him, because the Phalangist onslaught must be confronted with a unified position in order to put an end to it.

Shaykh Sha'ban expressed the hope that a meeting will soon be held between him and Walid Junblatt to coordinate positions and to consolidate arms in order to repulse the vicious onslaught led by the rancorous Phalangist clique. He affirmed that the views between him and the delegation were very close.

Muhammad al-Rifa'i, the PSP official in charge of internal affairs in the north, confirmed this proximity of views. He said the regime represented by the Phalangists has not yet abandoned its attempts to besiege nationalist Beirut and the mountain or to subdue and displace their residents in order to build the nucleus of a racist state and dominate all Lebanon.

Al-Rifa'i pointed out that the meeting also dealt with the need to cancel the legislative decrees issued by the former Al-Wazzan government and the need to implement the decisions for reforms which the regime is trying to evade. They also raised the question of the Al-Barbarah Phalangist roadblock and the extortion, robbery, and torture exercised by the Phalangists at this roadblock against the citizens.

Junblatt Accuses Al-Jumayyil of Car Explosions

NC270853 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 24 Dec 84 P 2

[Excerpts] Al-Mukhtarah — Khaldun Zayn al-Din writes: Walid Junblatt, minister of public works, transportation and tourism, has cautioned that the series of explosions, assassinations, and booby-trapped cars against the national areas will continue, stressing the need for invigorating the internal front.

Yesterday Junblatt received a delegation from the Zaytuni clan which, according to sources, came to confirm that the execution of Raja' Zaytuni, who participated in the explosion operation, was a just verdict. Addressing the delegation Junblatt said: Agentry has nothing to do with families, and this applies to the Zaytuni family. But agents may still be found among families. Accordingly, we are compelled to preserve the internal front even if this would entail vigorous measures.

Junblatt said: I repeat that families have nothing to do with agentry. There are fainthearted persons who belong to the Army and to other organizations. Ours and Amal's well-known enemy, the Deuxieme Bureau and Amin al-Jumayyil, are using these persons to carry out all the acts of sabotage. He added: Political circumstances dictate that we go easy on him for a while. However, this does not mean that we have dropped this person from our accounts. Amin al-Jumayyil should be brought to trial for his crimes against the Lebanese people in the southern suburb and in Al-Shahhar. The blood of our kinfok in Al-Shahhar has not dried yet, and this will continue until this person is punished.

Gunmen Kidnap Two Soldiers in Tripoli

NC270828 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Gunmen kidnapped two soldiers from their houses in Tripoli this morning. The soldiers are Habib Batsh and Bisharah Hajjar. Contacts are underway to secure their release and to contain any repercussions that might develop.

In another development, machinegun fire is being directed at the positions of the Lebanese Army and disengagement forces in Suq al-Gharb and Kamil Hotel.

Israeli Casualties in Attack Estimated at 10

NC261834 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] At 1630 today, national and Islamic resistance fighters used rockets and machine guns to attack an Israeli occupation forces' convoy while it was moving on the Al-Burghuliyah-Tyre road.

Our correspondent in Tyre reports that helicopters and three Star of David ambulances were seen rushing to the scene to evacuate the casualties, which, according to preliminary information, are estimated at 10 Israeli troops.

Our correspondent adds that a backup patrol belonging to the occupation forces surrounded the area, imposed a curfew on Al-Burghuliyah, and arrested dozens of citizens.

Attack on Israeli Convoy, Other Operations Noted

NC261430 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] In the south, national and Islamic resistance fighters attacked an enemy convoy on the Al-Sarafand-Tyre road at dawn today, using rockets and automatic weapons.

A large number of enemy soldiers was killed and wounded in the clash. Helicopters were seen evacuating the casualties.

This morning, the resistance fighters detonated a large bomb as an enemy convoy was moving on the Ansar road. After the explosion, the resistance fighters attacked the convoy with various weapons.

An unspecified number of enemy soldiers was killed and wounded. The occupation forces immediately surrounded Ansar and following a confrontation with the residents, detained a number of them.

The village was still besieged as of this afternoon.

At 1100 today, resistance fighters attacked an enemy patrol as it was moving along the Abu Al-Aswad road between Sidon and Tyre, using rockets and automatic weapons. One vehicle was destroyed and all of its occupants were killed or wounded. The occupation forces immediately sealed off the area and detained 30 citizens. The area is still besieged and under curfew.

Patrol Attacked

NC270934 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Lebanese national resistance fighters attacked an enemy patrol on the Dayr Qanun al-Nahr road in the south at 0530 this morning. A jeep was damaged and three patrol members were killed or wounded. Consequently, the occupation forces brought in reinforcements and began a wide-scale search.

Assassination of Guard Official Attempted

NC262142 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] The Israeli forces have destroyed an arms cache containing automatic rifles in Al-Sarafand [south Lebanon]. Meanwhile, Qasim Sallum, official in charge of the southern guard, was the object of an assassination attempt in Al-Nabatiyah, and was taken to a hospital there.

Lahd Army Spokesman Denies 'Low Morale'

JN261303 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1100 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Some mass media yesterday dealt with the fabricated news that dozens of soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon are submitting their resignations and that the Army's command had recently been forced to call in a psychiatrist to raise the morale of this army's soldiers. Reacting to this, the command's military spokesman said that this report is entirely devoid of truth and that those spreading this tendentious rumor are at liberty to visit this army's barracks to ascertain the good work in them, the high morale of the soldiers, and their absolute loyalty to the commander of their army and to the Lebanese cause. The spokesman added that as for the command's calling in a psychiatrist to raise the soldiers' morale, it seems that the spreaders of this poisoned rumor are the ones who need a specialist in mental disease to examine the soundness of their thinking.

Al-Jumayyil Arrives, Meets With Al-Asad

JN271152 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a cordial working visit to Syria. The Lebanese president was accorded an official reception at the Shooting Club on the outskirts of Damascus.

President Hafiz al-Asad headed those greeting Al-Jumayyil. He was also welcomed by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

The Lebanese and Syrian national anthems were played and a 21-gun salute was fired. The two presidents inspected the guard of honor. President al-Jumayyil then shook hands with deputy prime ministers, the ministers, and the heads of the Arab diplomatic missions.

Following the reception ceremony at the Shooting Club, the two presidents left for the guest palace, where the two presidents held a meeting. It was attended by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Lebanese military intelligence chief Colonel Simon Qassis, and Lebanese presidential adviser Michel Samahah.

The Lebanese president arrived in Syria by road today. He was received at the Syrian-Lebanese border post of Judaydat Yabus by Wahid Fadil, minister of state for presidential affairs, who accompanied him to the marksmanship club.

AL-THAWRAH on 'Blind' U.S. Bias Toward Israel

JN270847 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Damascus, 27 Dec (SANA) — In today's editorial, *AL-THAWRAH* deals with news agency reports that U.S. President Reagan intends to invite some Arab leaders to visit Washington early next year within the framework of reactivating the so-called Middle East peace negotiations.

The paper notes that this move stems from the principles of the U.S. policy in the region — the policy which is based on the principle of blind bias toward Israel.

The paper says: The U.S. stand is based on a number of facts. The United States still insists on solving the Middle East crisis through separate deals which aim at imposing Israeli conditions on the Arabs. The United States also still insists on considering the Reagan plan the only way to achieve peace in the region.

AL-THAWRAH asserts that the biased U.S. policy will only bring disaster and catastrophe to the Middle East. This dangerous ignoring of the facts of the Arab-Israeli conflict by the United States will not benefit it. It will exacerbate tension in the region and may lead to comprehensive conflagration in the conflict arena.

AL-THAWRAH adds: U.S. insistence to bypass Syria's major role in the region is one of the main reasons that has bought this policy to a deadlock.

Concluding its editorial, *AL-THAWRAH* advises the United States to stop its colonialist illusions and ways which control its Mideast policy, to learn from past expereinces, and to adopt a balanced policy in its relations with the parties the conflict.

The paper asserts that the Arab nation and its steadfast forces, led by Syria, will continue confrontation with the Zionist enemy and the policy of capitulation, and will allow nobody to relinquish the central cause of Arab struggle.

Peres Sees No 'Pressure' in Shultz Message

TA262119 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] The prime minister has said that U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' message did not contain any pressure or offense but was merely the advice of a friend telling us that Israel should proceed rapidly and firmly to heal its economy. Reacting to remarks by Minister Gad Ya'aqobi, who described Shultz as the high commissioner, Shim'on Peres said Shultz is one of the greatest friends Israel has ever made. In this context, our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that officials in the offices of the prime minister and the foreign minister are furious about Gad Ya aqobi's remarks regarding the U.S. secretary of state.

Speaking about the economy, the prime minister expressed the opinion that the path of economic growth could be retaken within 1 year through dialogue and agreement rather than by coercion. We should continue to reduce subsidies, we should sign wage agreements for 1 year, and we should introduce changes in taxation and the capital market, he said. Growth will be brought about by thawing approximately $60 million to help industries in the development towns. Shim'on Peres was speaking this evening at a rally of the Labor Party in Kibbutz Ramat Rahel.

Moda'i Takes Issue With Shultz Critics

TA261311 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] The finance minister has said that he regrets the attacks launched by some public figures and part of the Israeli media on U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and the U.S. Administration, and takes issue with them. He explained that the U.S. Government is currently reviewing the moves Israel has employed in the economy, and in deliberations between the two countries, the administration representatives have dealt with Israel's requests just as they had previously dealt with them. Minister Moda'i said he thanks the President, the administration, the Congress, and the American people for understanding Israel's needs and supporting it.

Further Press Reaction to Shultz Message

TA270941 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 27 Dec 84

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *THE JERUSALEM POST* writes that it will be hard to swallow the remedies proposed by Mr Shultz. They would lead not only to a lowering of living standards, but most likely to mass unemployment as well. Israel will presumably seek to prevail on the United States to amend this program. If it fails, or only half succeeds, a serious dilemma will arise. Some nations have declined IMF loans because the terms were too stiff. Israel could forgo the benefit of at least some U.S. aid in exchange for greater freedom to fashion its own path to economic recovery. In any case, haranguing the United States for being too high-handed will not do at this late date.

HA'ARETZ says that Minister Ya'aqobi's outburst is astonishing, especially considering the fact that the remarks attributed to Mr Shultz are not condescending and do not issue orders or preach morality. They briefly and simply voice the view prevailing among U.S. experts on Israeli affairs on the faults in the Israeli economy and the measures necessary to cure them. It should be added that Mr Shultz himself, and the above experts no less than him, are distinct friends of Israel: they are even among the most loyal ones among U.S. officials in key positions in the U.S. Administration. It seems that ministers, including those of the Labor Party, must again get used to using a pleasant style when negotiating with friendly countries. They should particularly get used to the idea that there is not one single solution to the economic problems, and that it is possible to discuss them quietly and factually. They should also remember that one who gets himself into trouble does not have the right to display so much pride while extending his hand to receive aid. There is nothing more ridiculous than the pride of beggars.

HATZOFE writes that Israel can adopt cheaper defense systems than those in use today; the reference is to defense systems currently used by European countries to face the Warsaw Pact threat. Israel does not do so because of its understanding with the United States. It is inconceivable that, at the same time, the United States denies the debts incurred by the burden Israel has assumed. The United States is out of line in treating Israel like a country which is receiving charity and not rightful aid. The price Israel is paying — despite all the mistakes it has made in its domestic affairs — is too high for it to accept such a humiliating attitude. *THE NEW YORK TIMES* and Secretary of State Shultz do not have the moral right to preach to us. In view of this U.S. attitude, Israel should reconsider its comprehensive policy.

Moda'i: Economic Policy Difficult in Broad Government

TA270646 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i says a broad-based government makes economic policy more difficult. Speaking in Kfar Saba, Moda'i said that under a narrow government handouts to three religious Knesset members would be far smaller than to 40 Knesset members with hearty appetites. Moda'i also said that Israel is now with its back to the wall.

January Meeting With Egypt, U.S. on Tabah

TA270533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Delegations from Israel, Egypt, and the United States will convene in Beersheba in approximately 2 weeks to talk about MFO deployment in Tabah. This was reported by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. The decision on the venue and timing of the meeting was worked out over the last few days in talks our ambassador in Cairo, Moshe Sason, held with the Egyptian foreign minister and other personalities.

Last night the prime minister received a message from President Mubarak, whose main point was the wish to improve bilateral relations. The message was brought to Peres by the charge

d'affaires of the Egyptian Embassy, Muhammad Basyuni. Our correspondent has learned that Egypt will again allow Israel to search for the bodies of the *Daqar* submarine crew, and will help in the search for the bodies of pilots whose planes were shot down in the Nile Valley.

Mubarak Said to Link Economic Ties to Tabah Talks

TA271050 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Dec 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak wants to establish economic relations with Israel immediately after contacts over Tabah begin. He places no conditions on thawing relations, and does not link this to finding a solution to the problem. This was stated by U.S. Congressman John Kasich, who arrived in Israel following a visit to Egypt. The visitors reported this to senior officials in Israel. In a meeting with Kasich, Mubarak emphasized his flexibility regarding the two other conditions for the resumption of the dialogue; the withdrawal from Lebanon and an improvement in conditions in the West Bank. He claims that it only takes an expression of readiness on the part of Israel to take action on these two issues in order for the Egyptian ambassador to return to Tel Aviv.

Mubarak told his U.S. guest about his efforts to persuade PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat to move toward King Husayn and join the peace process on the basis of UN Resolution No 242. Mubarak emphasized that this does not conflict with the Camp David accords.

In a meeting with Butrus Ghali, Kasich condemned the anti-Semitic and anti-Israeli expressions in the Egyptian media, and warned that the United States would draw the appropriate conclusions should this trend continue. He hinted at the possibility that Congress, which takes an unfavorable view of these phenomena, will not show sympathy toward the Egyptian aid requests for next year.

Rabin 'Expects' Lebanese to Accept Israeli Plan

TA261438 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1425 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that Israel first and foremost expects the Lebanese Government to reach a decision which will permit the deployment of UNIFIL in the Al-'Awwali area, according to the Israeli plan. Rabin says that if in the 7 January meeting in Al-Naqurah it transpires that the Lebanese are not embracing a new attitude, the government will have to consider whether there is any sense in continuing the talks and in continuing the search for a political-military solution. In a talk with our correspondent Hayim Hecht, the defense minister said that at this stage Israel is waiting to see whether the compromise formula which UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart is about to bring with him is acceptable to the Lebanese. Only after this will Israel itself consider it.

Peres, Rabin To Urge Phased Withdrawal From Lebanon

TA262011 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] The prime minister and the defense minister hope they will be able to convince the leadership of Likud [illegible] withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon. Our political correspondent Yoran Ronen talked with some of the Likud leaders who told him that they do not reject the plan out of hand. Our correspondent says that according to the plan being formed in the Alignment, the prime minister and defense minister will unite behind the suggestion of the latter, by which Israel will in the first stage withdraw to the Litani River and will in the second stage withdraw to the line between the international border and the Litani River. Only in the third stage will the IDF withdraw to the international border.

Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told our correspondent that he is willing to discuss any military solution which will bring about an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, on the condition that the security of the northern settlements be ensured. Former defense minister Moshe Arens said that he has not yet heard about Peres' and Rabin's plan. However, a plan for phased withdrawal will only bring about increased pressure to withdraw completely.

Our correspondent says that consultations will begin next week between Likud and Alignment ministers in the framework of the inner Cabinet in order to formulate a mutually acceptable withdrawal plan.

Some of the Alignment Knesset Members [MK's] believe that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres changed his opinion on the withdrawal and approached the position of the defense minister in order to be able to present Likud with a consolidated Alignment position. These MK's criticize the prime minister and say that only a few days ago he talked about a quick withdrawal to the international border, whereas now he is quoted as supporting withdrawal to the Litani River line.

Rabin Fears Effects of Unilateral Withdrawal

TA270602 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that if Israel is forced to make a unilateral withdrawal in Lebanon, it should be done in stages with the cooperation of local forces. Speaking at a closed forum, the defense minister expressed fears that a unilateral withdrawal could lead to intercommunal fighting in which the Christians could suffer most. He believed that a 1-stage withdrawal to the international border might make it difficult for Israel to maintain security even in the area that had been controlled by Major Haddad's forces before the "Peace for Galilee" operation. Rabin believes that time is working against Israel in her relations with the Shi'ites in southern Lebanon.

Arens Attacks Unilateral Withdrawal Supporters

TA262120 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Minister Moshe Arens has said there is no chance the government may decide on a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon before arrangements to safeguard the security of the inhabitants of the Galilee have been secured. In a rally of members of the Herut Movement of Latin American extraction, Arens attacked those supporting a unilateral withdrawal and said that their statements would not change the government's policy.

Bar-Lev on Possibility of Negotiations With Jordan

TA211829 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 21 Dec 84

[Text] Minister Hayim Bar-Lev has said the developments that have occurred in Jordan recently are increasing the possibility of negotiations with it. Israel must exhaust this chance. Minister Bar-Lev rejects the claim that the unity government is only authorized to deal with the problems of the economy. He stresses that the government's guidelines say specifically that Israel will call upon Jordan to make peace with it. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that Minister Bar-Lev said this in a lecture in Jerusalem.

Travel Agent Links With Jordan Reported

TA231735 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1724 GMT 23 Dec 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 23 Dec (ITIM) — There have been commercial ties between Jordanian and Israeli travel agents for a long time. The Jordanian agents, who have been occupied with bringing tourists to the holy sites in Nazareth, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem since before 1967, maintain commercial links with the travel agents in Israel.

This was reported in the IDF Radio newsreel broadcast today.

Because of the cheap Jordanian Alia airline fares, many pilgrims prefer to begin their visit to Israeli sites in Amman. A travel agent from Tel Aviv said, in the course of the program, that the link with the Jordanian agents is not direct, but is conducted via East Jerusalem agents who have offices in Jordan, or indirectly, via Cyprus or Greece.

The transfer of the money paid for the tourist services provided in Israel is made through the local agent in Jerusalem or in various European capitals.

It turns out that the Jordanian agents have excellent relations with church elements in Europe and the United States. In this context, in addition to the low flight fares, the Jordanian airline also helps Israeli tourist agents to sell travel package deals at low prices.

Sharon Comments on Unity Government, Lebanon

TA221007 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 22 Dec 84

[Interview with Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon by Amnon Nadav on 21 December at Ben-Gurion Airport — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Nadav] Mr Minister, you are returning precisely on the eve of the 100th-day anniversary of the government's existence, and it is customary after such a period of grace to sum it up. How would you sum this period up?

[Sharon] Unfortunately, I was absent during part of those 100 days. Nonetheless, I would like to point out that I was among the initiators of the national unity government, and from the very beginning, I and my friends and colleagues from the Labor Party and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres have all worked to achieve this. I think the establishment of the government was very important. I believe only a national unity government has the authority to handle Israel's economic problems — of course, only if it takes the necessary steps. It is consequently necessary to dedicate all efforts to this, and furthermore every effort should be made to allow the government to continue to function as a national unity government. I also believe that we are in the midst of a certain period of grace in relation to demands for Israel to make political settlements that are dangerous to its security and existence. Such settlements, as everyone knows, are on our threshold. As long as efforts are being made to improve Israel's economy — and these are noticeable, with tangible results — I think this political activity, entailing great danger to Israel, will be postponed.

[Nadav] Has the government's functioning up until now given rise to the hope that the unity government will meet people's expectations of it?

[Sharon] Look, to my regret, I have been away for more than 6 weeks now. I thought I would be away for a shorter period of time, but I could not set the court's timetable. I regarded the campaign there as very important. I know that the government is capable of fulfilling its missions. I would not right now like to deal with the analysis of what the government has done or has failed to do; I would only like to note that I believe it is capable of doing things. It has the power to do things, and it enjoys the necessary decisive majority in the Knesset — which has never happened before in the history of Israel since its establishment, with one exception. Therefore, I believe it is necessary to concentrate on these efforts and take the necessary measures in the economic sphere. It is necessary to take advantage of the time at our disposal, and to try to avoid marching toward any political moves that involve danger, because there is no national consensus on them. No doubt such steps would first distract us from the main objective at the moment, which is the economic issue; they would undermine the necessary unity among the Cabinet members and undoubtedly invite outside pressure for plans that entail danger to us and which are not called for — such as the Reagan plan or any other plan that might crop up.

[Nadav] Do you think that a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon could jeopardize the national unity government?

[Sharon] As a rule, I do not think that one must deal all day with threatening issues. The threat is not to the government, but to the security of the country, the safety and well-being of the inhabitants of the north of the country. There are hundreds of thousands of citizens in the north, who since the "Peace for Galilee" operation have resumed normal life. This is the danger, not the existence of the government. This should be clarified once and for all: The danger is not to the ministers' chairs; the danger is to the lives of people. In this, I believe it is necessary to understand once again that a withdrawal is not a goal; rather, the goal is the well-being of the inhabitants of the north. It is consequently necessary to take all measures to ensure their safety and well-being. These steps no doubt are linked to a security strip along Israel's northern border, a security strip that should be approximately 30 km in size, designed to prevent a renewal of fire on the northern settlements. This requires the presence of local forces that cooperate with Israel — by that I mean the army of southern Lebanon units — as well as a series of other arrangements that will allow Israel to oversee and ensure that this security strip will not see the reemergence of the independent PLO reign of terror that existed there for so many years.

Gush Emunim Completes Settlement Plans

TA231518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1440 GMT 23 Dec 84

[Text] Gush Emunim has completed plans to establish new settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District if the government does not do so. Our correspondent reports that the settlement heads have located the areas in which they plan to establish settlements, primarily in Samaria, in the Binyamin district, and the Gaza Strip. Gush Emunim says the settlements will be established with their own financing to test the government's credibility and sincerity, and find out whether the settlement freeze results from economic, or perhaps political, reasons. Likud Knesset Members are expected to meet with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on this matter in the next few days. Gush Emunim will refrain from carrying out its threat to set up new settlements until after that meeting.

Rabin Meets With Likud Mks on Settlements

TA261805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] The meeting between Defense Minister Rabin and Likud Knesset Members [MK's] regarding the settlements has just ended at the Defense Ministry. This was the first debate held by the coalition partners on this issue. Our correspondent Shalom Oren is at the broadcasting van next to the Defense Ministry:

[Begin recording] [Oren] The meeting between Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, MK's Mikha'el Deqel and Dan Meridor, and the head of the Settlement Department, Matityahu Drobles of Likud, regarding the establishment of settlements in Judaea and Samaria — the six settlements stipulated in the coalition agreement — ended a few minutes ago. Naturally, the Likud members want to establish more settlements in areas on which there is national consensus, such as the Jordan Rift Valley and Gush 'Ezyon.

No resolutions were adopted. It was agreed that each side would submit the fundamental proposals to its own party and that within 10 days, or 2 weeks at most, another meeting would be held to decide on the sites of the settlements. At the end of the meeting, we talked to Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

[Rabin] The argument — and an argument exists, this is merely an initial clarification — probably stems from two different points of view represented by each of the two large parties. However, I believe that the desire to maintain the national unity government will make us find a common denominator which will enable both sides to coexist.

[Oren] Could you say that at least one or two settlements will be established deep in the area?

[Rabin] At the moment, I do not want to go into the question of the depth of the area. We must reach an accord regarding those five to six settlements, and I believe that we will do just that.

[Oren] Some settlements in Judaea and Samaria have been exerting heavy pressure on Likud and have threatened to begin establishing settlements on their own if a solution is not found. Are you aware of this problem?

[Rabin] For the sake of argument, I should say that I do not operate under pressure and I do not believe that Likud works under duress either. We are all working to implement the coalition agreements we signed, which are therefore binding on both sides. Hence, we should go on dealing with their implementation.

[Oren] What will you do if incidents similar to what happened last week at Khirbat al-Rumaythah recur elsewhere in Judaea and Samaria?

[Rabin] I will not engage in hypothetical questions. Settlements will only be decided upon by the government.

[Oren] Do you believe that a satisfactory solution will be found?

[Rabin] I want to believe that very much.

[Oren] Was the meeting here today held in a good atmosphere and amid understanding?

[Rabin] My impression is that the atmosphere was good. Of course, opinions differ, but the atmosphere was good in light of our wish to reach an agreement and understanding.

[Oren] It should be pointed out that the Defense Ministry has received various proposals from several parties — the National Religious Party, Morasha, Likud, and the Liberals — regarding 16 to 20 settlements. As we noted earlier, another meeting will be held within 2 weeks and a decision will then be made about the settlements that will be established. [end recording]

West Bank Settlement Approved

TA270720 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 Dec 84 p 1

[Report by defense affairs correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv — Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Likud representatives yesterday agreed to establish a new settlement in northwestern Samaria close to the pre-1967 armistice lines. But they differed on where five more settlements should be set up, well-placed sources told *THE JERUSALEM POST*.

The agreed upon settlement will be called Avne Hefez, and will be located east of Yad Hanna.

The Likud delegation — MK's Mikha'el Deqel, Dan Meridor and the co-chairman of the World Zionist Organization's Settlement Department, Matityahu Drobles — argued for the establishment of additional settlements it wishes to see created on the West Bank's mountain ridge, a Likud source said. This is an area densely populated by Arabs, and the Alignment has envisaged possibly giving it up in any future peace arrangement with Jordan.

Rabin proposed the additional settlements be established in the Jordan Valley, Gush 'Ezyon and the southern Mount Hebron area. He said he wanted to get Labour's United Kibbutz Movement interested in southern Mount Hebron, *THE POST* was told.

Any new settlements will be established in accordance with the coalition agreement which provides for the creation of five to six by September 1985.

However, it was not clear where funding for the settlements will be found.

Rabin told the Likud delegation he would use the defence budget to repair and extend the Trans-Samaria road to Paza'el and to "strengthen" the Ma'aleh Efrayyim area.

Rabin hastened to add after the meeting that it had been intended for the purposes of exploring various options. Speaking on Israel TV last night, he said that "in the end, it is the government that will have to decide on these settlements."

Referring to differences between the two coalition partners on the settlement issue, Rabin said: "These areas are controversial, which is natural. The national unity government didn't blur the differences in our views. But we've set in motion ways to reach an agreement."

Rabin Rules Out Settlement in Nabulus

TA250819 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Dec 84 p 2

[Text] Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has instructed the Military Government in the West Bank to prevent any attempt by Jewish settlers to establish themselves near Joseph's Tomb inside Nabulus.

The defence minister's instructions follow persistent rumours that settlers and their supporters are to try to use Chanuka candle-lighting ceremonies in the largest Arab town in the West Bank as a cover for establishing a long talked-of settlement there.

The previous government had allowed the settlers to establish a yeshiva at Joseph's Tomb. Because of its proximity to two prominent Arab high schools and the Balatah refugee camp the tomb became a focus for unrest.

Late last week residents from various settlements in the Nabulus area asked permission to light candles at the tomb. Rabin turned them down at the beginning of this week, but said yesterday Tehiya supporters may hold a ceremony today opposite the Nabulus Military Government headquarters.

Tzur Urges Consensus in Settlement Effort

TA241913 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Text] Minister Ya'aqov Tzur says that there is no clause in the government's guidelines requiring the establishment of settlements in disputed areas. He told our correspondent Asher Schwartz that during the 7 years of the Likud government, the situation of the settlements in the Jordan Rift Valley became pitiful. He believes the government should establish settlements in areas where there is a consensus, such as the Jordan Rift Valley, Gush 'Ezyon, and the southern part of the Gaza Strip, and not in areas where there is no consensus.

Court Agrees to No W. Bank Local Elections

TA241225 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Text] The High Court of Justice has approved the decision by the Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria not to hold elections to the Arab municipalities in that area. This was included in a High Court of Justice decision that rejected an appeal by Dura Municipality residents. According to the judges, the Civilian Administration personnel may well assume that the elections to the local authorities, including the Dura Municipality, are essentially a political tool of the PLO. Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that the judges did, however, comment that it would be desirable to set a deadline for establishing an ad hoc council in Dura.

Air Force Commander Says 'Enemy' Has MiG-27s

TA250818 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Dec 84 p 2

[Report by defense correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv — Air Force commander Aluf [Major General] Amos Lapidot says the enemy already has advanced Soviet-made MiG-27s.

Lapidot said this in an interview with the Israel Aircraft Industries' in-house magazine, *SHEHAKIM*.

Lapidot is quoted as having said: "The enemy is constantly absorbing advanced and sophisticated systems. The examples of the recent years in the enemy's air forces are: advanced types of MiG-23, MiG-25 and MiG-27." He did not specify which country has the MiG-27.

The Israeli air force, on the other hand, "may have to cut its size to a certain extent in the near future" because of budgetary cuts, he said.

Most of the interview was a defence of the Lavi project. The air force commander, who had headed the project before assuming his present post, said Israel needs "a few dozen new fighter planes" every year to make up for attrition as a result of operational use, accidents and training. A new type of plane is needed every five years, he added.

The Lavi, he said, will be perfectly tailored to Israel's needs. Its capabilities will not be "particularly outstanding" with regard to elements considered marginal here, but the air force envisages using it in conjunction with other planes.

"Technologically it will be a very advanced plane. Operationally it will be very much directed to our needs, on the assumption that we will use several types of fighter aircraft and divide the tasks in an optimal manner," he said.

He said the Lavi will also give Israel its own weapons system. The Arabs can acquire any foreign-made weapon Israel can. The alternative of introducing Israeli devices into western planes is expensive and time consuming, he argued.

The air force commander also said he expects planes to remain in service for some 20 to 30 years. Skyhawks have been in the IAF for 16 years and are expected to be used for 10 more. The first Phantoms arrived in 1969 and there are no plans to pull them out. "They will probably serve in the air force for 30 years," he added.

Rabin Receives Italy's Spadolini Upon Arrival

TA261714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini was greeted by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin upon his arrival in Israel this evening for a visit. Speaking at Ben-Gurion Airport, Spadolini expressed the hope that extremism and intolerance will shortly disappear from Israel.

Spadolini will confer with the Israeli president this evening and with the prime minister, the foreign minister, and senior officials in the defense establishment tomorrow. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal points out that Spadolini is known for his sympathy toward Israel.

Agreement With Brazil on Balancing Trade

TA261304 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1215 GMT 26 Dec 84

["Announcement by the Spokesman for the Industry and Trade Ministry" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 26 Dec (ITIM) — "We have signed a memorandum of understanding with the Brazilian Government on balancing trade," Mr Yehoshu'a Forer, the director general of the Industry and Trade Ministry said upon returning from economic talks in Brazil and the United States.

Mr Forer noted that at present trade between Israel and Brazil is definitely in Brazil's favor. Israeli exports to Brazil amounted to approximately $20 million, whereas imports from Brazil reached about $60 million. Imports include primarily beef, liver, citrus fruits, and coffee. Israel mainly exports chemicals to Argentina [as received].

According to the memorandum of understanding, bilateral trade will achieve a balance. The Brazilian Government has agreed to purchase Israeli goods commensurate with Israeli purchases of Brazilian merchandise.

Seventh Suspect Detained in U.S. Embassy Incident

TA251346 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1323 GMT 25 Dec 84

[Text] Another suspect has been detained in connection with the attempted attack on the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. The suspect is 21 years old and an inhabitant of the Gaza Strip. The court has banned the publication of his name. The man was detained last night and police suspect he is connected to those involved in the affair. Police are charging him with illegal possession of arms. Following his detention, the number of suspects detained in connection with the attempted attack on the U.S. Embassy has reached seven. Our correspondent Yaron Deqel adds that the Tel Aviv Magistrate Court justice today remanded him for another 3 days.

Minister: No Decision Yet on VOA Request

TA231440 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 23 Dec 84

[Text] Israel has discussed the U.S. request to set up transmitters in Israel for the VOA radio station for the purpose of broadcasts in the United States [as heard], but no decision has yet been made. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein has said that negotiations with the Americans are underway, but that we have not yet given our consent. At the same time, he emphasized that as a consequence of our economic situation, we do not have sufficient power to refuse the request.

Knesset Member Yosi Sarid demanded that the prime minister turn down the U.S. request. He told our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami that Spain, Greece, and Turkey had turned down the U.S. request to set up transmitters on their soil.

Implementation To Be Postponed

TA270812 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Jerusalem will propose that the United States and Israel jointly examine the possibility of positioning VOA relay stations on Israeli soil. Our political correspondent says that Israel will agree to the U.S. request in principle, but in reality its implementation will be postponed. 'Oz Frankel, our political correspondent, reports:

[Begin Frankel recording] Israel will propose that the United States, together with Israel, look into the stationing of the relay stations. This means, in all probability, the establishment of a committee, which probably means a postponement of the entire project for an unlimited period. Israel will, in principle, agree to the U.S. request to station VOA relay stations here to strengthen the transmissions of this official radio station to the Soviet Union. Prime Minister Peres will probably send a message to the U.S. President containing a favorable reaction to the idea in itself, but will recommend a joint reexamination of the entire matter with all the technical and other aspects involved. This is no diplomatic ploy. The Israeli political leadership agrees to these relay stations being stationed in Israel, but fears the effect on Moscow's attitude toward Soviet Jewry.

According to the original proposal, the relay stations were to serve both the VOA as well as the Voice of Zion to the Diaspora. Jerusalem believes that the combination of the two stations under one relay station may cause damage. So far, the Soviet authorities have made a distinction between the Jewish struggle and the struggle of the dissidents. The combination of the stations may result in an identification between the two struggles, which would not be favorable to Soviet Jewry. The publicity given the negotiations between the United States and Israel, which had been kept secret for a long time, and the political debate on this in Israel have contributed to the desire to postpone the positioning of the relay stations. Jerusalem has already decided to respond affirmatively but to postpone the actual stationing. In any event, the U.S. relay stations and the relay stations for Israeli transmissions to the Soviet Union will be kept separate. [end recording]

Lebanese Druze Demand Help of Brethren

TA220822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 22 Dec 84

[Text] The Lebanese Druze have demanded that their brethren in Israel join them in the war in Lebanon, which they maintain has reached a crucial and decisive stage. They also demand that the Israeli Government allow the Druze to cross into the Al-Shuf range, to come to their aid. They said that it is the Christians who have been the warmongers in the Al-Kharrub region, that there is absolutely no hope for a political arrangement, and that the Lebanese Army is presently their avowed enemy.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that groups of Druze fighters from the southern Lebanese villages of Hasbayya and Rashayya have recently crossed over into the Al-Shuf region.

Israeli Druze Desire To Help

TA221415 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 22 Dec 84

[Text] At an emergency rally of the Druze sect held at noon in Yirka, in Galilee, dozens of Druze youths who have been released from the IDF announced they want to go to Lebanon to fight at the sides of their brethren, as the Druze once fought at the side of the IDF. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that many of these youths have declared that if they are not permitted to go to Lebanon, they will cross the border on their own.

Knesset Member Zaydan 'Atshah, Shinuy, called on the government at the rally to give the volunteers permission to fight in Lebanon as part of the Druze militia groups. The rally was attended by about 1,500 of the sect members from the Galilee and Karmel villages.

Shi'ites 40 Percent of 69 New Recruits to ASL

TA241049 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0918 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Southern Lebanon, 24 Dec (ITIM) — The ITIM correspondent in the north, Shlomo Hadad, reports that 69 soldiers joined the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] today after completing their basic training in the ASL's main training camp in Al-Majidiyah. Fifty percent of the new recruits are Christian, 40 percent are Shi'ites, and the rest are Sunni and Druze. They will reinforce the ASL battalions in the strip of Shi'ite villages and the Al-Nabatiyah region, where attacks against ASL soldiers increase daily.

ASL officers express great satisfaction over the high percentage of Shi'ites who successfully completed basic training. They believe that this proves that the Shi'ites in southern Lebanon still support Israel and have faith in the ability of the ASL and the IDF to maintain security in the area. The ASL officers hope that many Shi'ites will also participate in future basic training courses, in order to preserve the balance in the ASL, thereby facilitating the soldiers' tasks, particularly in the Shi'ite villages.

Arrest of Shi'ites Decreases Terrorist Activity

TA270947 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Dec 84 p 3

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] A decline in the number of attacks on the IDF in the western sector of Lebanon has been registered following the arrests of scores of Shi'ites suspected of hostile activity against the IDF. Their arrests have prevented various attack plans in the region from materializing.

The detainees are suspected of planning and staging 22 terrorist attacks.

There has recently been an increase in the number of attempts to bring sabotage material into southern Lebanon via the Al-'Awwali River bridges.

Ever since the IDF closed the region to vehicular traffic, the terrorists have hardly managed to bring booby-trapped cars into southern Lebanon.

New Crossing Opens in Lebanon's Eastern Sector

TA230755 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 Dec 84 p 3

[Report by Yehuda Tzur]

[Text] A vehicle crossing point opened for the first time this week at Jubb Jannin in the eastern sector in Lebanon, enabling the transfer of agricultural produce from IDF-controlled territory into the Al-Biqa' region controlled by Syria. The crossing point opened a few days ago. It enables 50 trucks to transfer citrus fruit and other agricultural produce every day. The crossing point opened following protracted negotiations between Israel and Syria initiated by the IDF's liaison unit in southern Lebanon at the request of 3,000 citrus growers — mostly Shi'ites — in southern Lebanon. The Syrians put off their reply for a few weeks and have now given their consent to the Israeli request. In the area controlled by the IDF in southern Lebanon, there are 70,000 dunam of citrus trees which produced 350,000 tons of fruit this year. According to plans, the number of trucks unloading produce at the new crossing point will reach 80 in the next few days. There are two loading and unloading tarmacs on both sides of the crossing. The crossing is open 4 days a week, from morning until noon. It should be noted that some 600 pedestrians use the crossing point daily.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Speech Closes FLN Party Session

LD231221 Algiers APS in English 1015 GMT 23 Dec 84

[Text] Algiers, 23/12/84, (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN party secretary general, presided over, yesterday, the closing session of the FLN party meeting which gathered notably members of the permanent secretariat of the Central Committee. In his intervention, President Chadli first mentioned the [words indistinct] — achieved during the past year by the party and the mass organisations.

He underlined that if the activities during the current years have yield good results, we have got to step up more efforts so as to make them more efficient and able to reach the assigned aims.

The president reaffirmed that the coming step in the national edification requires selection of better elements being competent, upright and committed to carry out projects of the second five year plan.

The head of state appealed for a further deepening the exercise of democracy and focused attention especially on the fact that the peoples communal assemblies (APC) must be enlarged to the citizens so as to drive them to debate questions interesting them first.

Asked about the project for the setting up of a dry dock in Algeria, a pending project even at the end of OAPEC recent meeting in Kuwait, Mr. Nabi pointed out that Algeria as an OAPEC member has been selected to host the project. Studies conducted up till now underscored the economic expediency of this project installation in Algeria thus confirming the previously set option.

On another hand, the [word indistinct] cadres are available to carry through the project. The geograpical position is strategic because our country is located half-way between the Arab Gulf, Europe and the North sea. Nevertheless, it seems that no decision has been taken during the last meeting some delegations were to consult their governments before giving their approval [sentence as received]. Furthermore, OAPEC ministerial council confirmed the expediency of the setting up of the dry dock project in Algeria. It rests with the opinions and decide their contribution to the materialisation of the project. [sentence as received]

The president of the Republic once more insisted on the importance of the followup, on the ground in all fields especially of the agricultural sector by undeclining the problems and the inadequacies. [sentence as received] The existence of lacks, he said, is not a harm in itself but all the harms lies within not remedying it. The head of state called for the mobilization of all energies and the potentialities so as to lead successfully the battle of the coming phase of national development, time is for rigourous serious work, and self reliance he further added in conclusion. The president insisted on the necessity to take decisions that tally with our means of execution and to mobilize all potentialities for their carrying out, [word indistinct] therefore for the political decision all its credibility.

SWAPO's Nujoma Arrives for Visit 26 Dec

LD261353 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] SWAPO President Sam Nujoma arrived this morning in Algiers. He will meet with a number of Algerian officials. Sam Nujoma and his delegation were welcomed on arrival at Houari Boumedienne International Airport by Brother Sadek Zoeiten, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee of the party for external relations, and the representative of SWAPO in Algiers.

In a statement to the press, Sam Nujoma said that during his visit in Algiers he would meet with Algerian officials to review with them the most significant political developments in the Namibian situation. He will also discuss with them the means to intensify the struggle against the racist minority, which is increasing its terroristic, inhumane acts against the Namibian people. In this connection, he pointed out that despite the fact that the situation in Namibia is currently tense as a result of the continuation by the racist administration of its terroristic practices against the people of Namibia, SWAPO has recently realized considerable successes in its struggle against racial discrimination and for the independence of Namibia. Regarding the future strategy of SWAPO, Sam Nujoma reaffirmed that intensifying the struggle will remain at the forefront of the principles of the organization, which is determined to continue its struggle against the racist minority until victory.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Says U.S. Hindering Relations With France

LD242203 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Dec (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution affirmed that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has been trying to bring about a reconciliation between the quarreling sides in Chad by peaceful means and it looks forward to arriving at a peaceful resolution and to an end of the civil war.

This was stressed in the leader's meeting with a number of international newsmen 2 days ago.

The brother leader talked about the relations between the Jamahiriyah and France in light of the Libyan-French agreement on Chad and he said that there are no problems between ourselves and France and that relations with France are good.

The brother leader accused the U.S. Government of hindering relations between the Jamahiriyah and France. He said that America is doing everything to undermine France's relationship with Libya and with the Arab homeland. It began to manipulate its agents in Africa to convince France of its allegations and fabrications concerning the so-called Libyan presence in Chad.

He said that France and the Jamahiriyah cannot sacrifice their interests for the sake of America.

He stressed that the Jamahiriyah has withdrawn support elements from Chad and anyone who would like to make sure can go and see for himself, noting that what we hear is merely a pretext for the return of French forces to Chad. If this is what France wants it can, but it must shoulder the responsibility for this. However, we, the French, and the Chadians must not fall prey to American blackmail.

Whether or not the Jamahiriyah still continues to offer material support for the government of national unity under the leadership of Goukouni Oueddei, the brother leader affirmed that all northern Chad is living on Libyan aid because the mutinous Habre has cut off all supplies from the citizens in these areas.

The brother leader of the revolution was asked about the severence of British-Libyan Arab relations and he said: We did not sever relations with Britain and the popular congresses did not decide that. It was Britain that broke off relations. He noted that the British Government is acting against international law and it is encouraging terrorists and refuses to hand over persons wanted by the international police.

The brother leader of the revolution affirmed that the Libyan Arab citizens in the British arena have not committed any terrorist acts. Indeed, they are the target for terrorist acts in Britain. There are Libyans who are detained in British prisons. The severing of relations and the detention of Libyan students in Britain are purely political matters. They are not legal or judicial issues. The British Government should shoulder its political responsibilities. It is the one who received orders from Washington to sever relations with the Jamahiriyah and harass and imprison Libyan students.

About the extent of the readiness of the Jamahiriyah to release the four British prisoners, the brother leader explained that the their release is a matter for the law and in the jurisdiction of the basic popular congresses.

Al-Qadhdhafi Decries Treatment of Libyans in UK

LD261419 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution stressed that although Britons working in the Jamahiriyah receive every appreciation and respect from the Libyan Arab people and enjoy all the facilities and good treatment this people provide for them, the Libyans in Britain are being subjected to a strong campaign of hatred and harrassment by the British Government. The brother leader informed the envoy of the Anglican Church, Mr Terry Waite, when he received him yesterday, that we regret the disturbing situation which the Libyan students in Britain are suffering as a result of the maltreatment and deliberate provocations which they are experiencing.

He said: We are sorry for this illogical behavior by the British Government. He reaffirmed that we are anxious about the safety of our sons and the necessity that they be treated in a manner compatible with their dignity. He said: We in the Jamahiriyah refuse to insult the dignity of anyone out of our tradition, tolerance, and sincerity. Out of this, we treat the Britons with the amity, respect, and appreciation they deserve. This is confirmed by all the Britons in the Jamahiriyah.

The brother leader of the revolution pointed out that within the campaign to which the Libyans in Britain are being subjected, the British Government detained and imprisoned Libyans without justification, for political reasons. These Libyans are the victims of the deterioration of the relations resulting from the anti-Jamahiriyah British attitude. The leader stressed the necessity that the British Government release these Libyans. The brother leader of the revolution reaffirmed to the envoy of the Anglican Church that the British Government is adopting an anti-Libyan people attitude, as it shelters the stray dogs — the Libyans who have fled and who are conspiring against the people's authority. The British Government colludes with them in the sabotage operations, assassinations, and the destruction of the achievements of the Libyan Arab people.

During the meeting, the brother leader of the revolution acquainted Mr Terry Waite, the envoy of the Anglican Church, with documents issued by INTERPOL in connection with pursuing the fleeing stray dogs which Britain refused to hand over to INTERPOL according to international law, thus violating this quite clear legal right.

Mr Terry Waite expressed shock after having seen these documents. He expressed his profound regret at the fact that the British Government did not respond to the requirements of international law. He stressed the necessity that the British Government comply with this law and hand over those who are wanted by INTERPOL. Mr Terry Waite also expressed the deep regret of the Anglican Church as a result of the bad treatment of Libyans in Britain, and said: This is a mistake and it is inevitable that it should be corrected, and that the church will do its utmost to convince the British Government to refrain from treating the Libyans in such a way and should take into consideration their circumstances and scholastic situation in a manner that preserves their dignity and status. He said: I personally have experienced here in the Jamahiriyah tolerance, amity, and faithfulness.

U.S. Threatens Ties With UK

LD262235 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1955 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Excerpts] The brother leader of the revolution has stated: I stressed yesterday to the envoy of the Anglican church in Britain our request [as received] and our rejection of the treatment of Libyans in Britain to study or for any other reason by the British authorities.

He added that the degrading treatment of the Libyan students, their persecution and the provocative interrogations carried out with them must cease. The leader pointed out that the British Government is carrying out the orders of America, which is hostile to Libya because of Libya's stand against American imperialist expansion in the world. He added that Britain should not become a sacrifice for American imperialist policy as Britain has interests in Libya and Libya has interests in Britain and we must not sacrifice these interests for the sake of America.

He said: I have received assurances and a message from Archbishop Dr Robert Runcie. I have assured him that I shall raise the matter at the people's congresses during their next session so that they may have their say. The envoy of the church actually admitted the maltreatment of Libyan students in Britain and that the church rejects such very bad and disgraceful treatment.

JANA on Egypt's Call for Negotiations With Israel

LD241547 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Rabi Thani, 24 Dec, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The head of the Egyptian regime Husni Mubarak has said that Arabs must agree and sit at the negotiation table with Israel, without awaiting an answer from heaven to solve the Arab issue.

In a statement broadcast by the Middle East official news agency, the head of the Egyptian regime claimed that lack of negotiations with the enemy will be a threat to the Palestinian cause and will lead to the loss of the rest of Arab territory.

JANA's political editor has commented on these statements:

"The essence of these statements is a disgrace which will never be wiped out of the face of a regime whose will has been taken away as it handed its affairs to America and the Zionist enemy. The Arab nation cannot give into such a toy regime which works towards harming it, hinders its militant march and its nationalist struggle against the enemy, belittles its sacrifices and ridicules its past, present and future. The hireling regime in Egypt feels no shame in reaffirming to its masters its perserverance in serving the aggressive objectives against the Arab nation. Thus, it felt no shame when making this capitulationist call and want a hundred million Arabs to kneel to three million Zionists. Naturally, this is part of its cowardly calculation which made it surrender and hand Sinai and Tabah over to the Israelis. Through this call, the Egyptian regime not only shows its cowardice but proves that it is the tool of surrender.

"It must, therefore, be confronted because it has become a threat to the Arab nation's future and unity. It is easing the siege around the Zionist enemy and is opening the doors of Arab territories to U.S. forces. This submissive regime must be fully aware that the Arab nation, through its heritage, originality, belief and nobility of its past, its history of heroism and sacrifices, can never be defeated nor surrender. It believes that the call by the cowardly regime for surrender is a humiliation which cannot pass without reaction. It is necessary to repulse any agent traitor who tries to harm this nation's capibilities or play with its destiny. [no end quotation mark as received]

Arab Congress Secretariat Meets in Tripoli

LD261926 Tripoli JANA in English 1746 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Rabi Thani, 26 Dec, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The representative council at the permanent secretariat of Arab People's Congress held a meeting last night to review the political situation in the Arab homeland.

The meeting also followed up implementation of the resolutions of the coordination council of the Arab People's Congress and permanent secretariat and preparation of the execution programme of the action plan for next year.

The meeting emphasised on the danger of the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary aggression and mounting of the conspiracy led by the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes and stressed need to expose Camp David policy.

The meeting also praised the heroic resistance waged by Arab people in Lebanon and discussed ways of serious action for collaboration with those people and providing them with necessary support.

On the other hand, the permanent secretariat of Arab People's Congress will dispatch delegations to Arab states to meet with Arab popular forces in order to bear their responsibilities in facing the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary aggression.

MUARITANIA

Col Taya Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi

LD232202 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 23 Dec 84

[Text] Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] met the head of a mission to the leadership of the revolution in the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

The meeting was attended by Colonel Cheikh Ould [name indistinct], permanent secretary of the CMSN.

Mr Al-Mabruk was carrying a letter from the Libyan president [title as heard] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state.

Libyan Envoy Comments

LD262221 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Libyan envoy Mu'awiyah al-Mabruk left the capital this evening after handing a message from Libyan president [title as heard] Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN and president of the Republic.

Before leaving the country, the Libyan envoy gave the following statement to colleague (Yaqub Barnawi):

[Begin Al-Mabruk recording] In the name of God, the compassionate and the merciful. I came to my second country, Islamic Arab Mauritania, carrying the greetings and the affection of the brother leader, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, to his brother and friend, leader Maayouia Ould Taya. Naturally I am conveying greetings from the leader of the revolution in the Jamahiriyah to the Mauritanian people, which are bound with strong relations which no force on this earth can break; they are mutual historic relations and blood relations.

When I talk here in my country Mauritania, I feel as if I am talking to my relations in my second country or in the second part of my country Libya.

In fact, after my meeting with His Excellenty Col Maayouia Ould Taya, I found that he is a wise man, and he is the real salvation for the situation in Mauritania. At least he is able to plant confidence and strong affection between himself and the masses, the ones who are interested in salvation and the ones who have real interest in adopting the most effective and the safest ways toward real freedom over this soil.

However, I also met some of the brothers members of the CMSN and some ministers, and I found great understanding on their side of numerous local issues and issues at the levels of the Arab homeland, of brothers in Africa, and of bilateral relations between the Jamahiriyah and Islamic and Arab Mauritania. [end recording]

Algerian Foreign Minister Visits 26 Dec

AB261456 Paris AFP in French 1341 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Nouakchott, 26 Dec (AFP) — Algerian Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi arrived today in Nouakchott, where he was received by Mauritanian head of state Colonel Maaouyia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya.

The Algerian foreign minister stated that his visit to Mauritania falls within the framework of consultations between the two countries. The two men, he specified, touched on issues of bilateral cooperation as well as on the regional and international situation. "On this topic, we examined the means of coordinating our positions," he said.

Taleb Ibrahimi is the second highest Algerian official to visit Mauritania since the 12 December coup d'etat. The day after the change of regime, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid sent General Benyelles, the permanent secretary at the Ministry of Defense, to Nouakchott.

Observers in Nouakchott note that Taleb Ibrahimi's visit to Nouakchott follows the one that, according to unconfirmed indications from official sources, he made to Morocco recently.

Ibrahimi Departs

LD262109 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the Algerian minister of foreign affairs, left the capital this evening after a short visit to our country during which he was received by Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN and president of the Republic. Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi was seen off by Lieutenant Colonel Djibril Ould Abdallah, the minister of justice and acting minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

President Meets With SDAR Information Minister

AB221351 Paris AFP in French 1243 GMT 22 Dec 84

[Text] Nouakchott, 22 Dec (AFP) — Mohamed Ould Saleck, the SDAR minister of information, was received today by Colonel Ould Taya, the new Mauritanian president. The SDAR minister said he was bearer of a message from SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz to the Mauritanian head of state and that the visit fell within the framework of the traditional consultations between the two countries. Following the 12 December coup d'etat, the new Mauritanian regime stated that it upheld Mauritania's recognition of the SDAR as announced on 27 February [words indistinct]. On the same day, an envoy of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid was received by Col Ould Taya.

FR57-Million Loan Agreement Made With France

AB252148 Paris AFP French 0828 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Nouakchott, 24 Dec (AFP) — The Central Fund for Economic Cooperation (CCCE, a French institution) has granted Mauritania a loan totaling FR57 million under an agreement signed on Sunday in Nouakchott by Lieutenant Colonel Anne Amadou Babaly, Mauritania's minister of finance and commerce, and Gabriel Marset, the CCCE director in Mauritania. The loan, which will be paid back with a 5-percent rate of interest over 15 years and a 5-year grace period, is for the National Industrial and Mining Company, SNIM, which is responsible for the exploitation of iron ores in the country. The money will be used to start the exploitation of the Guelbs iron field inaugurated on 10 July 1984 in Zouerate in the north of Mauritania. The Guelbs project is designed to replace the exploitation of the Kedia d'Idjil iron field, which is about to run out.

SUDAN

Numayri Appoints SSU Committee Secretaries

JN271107 Khartoum SUNA in English 0950 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Khartoum, Rabie Thapi 4, Dec 27, SUNA — In his capacity as president of the Sudanese Socialist Union "SSU," President Numayri yesterday appointed Maj. Gen. retired Sadiq Ahmad Hasan al-Banna as SSU Organization Committees secretary, Khalid 'Abd al-Majid Ahmad as SSU Social Affairs Committees secretary and Kamal 'Umar al-Amin as SSU Political Affairs Committees secretary.

The newly appointed secretaries are expected to take oath next Saturday.

President Numayri also issued a resolution restoring SSU membership to:

1. 'Abd al-Qayyum al-Turki.
2. Hashim Ahmad al-Zubayr.
3. Zuhayr Harun.

The three were earlier deprived of their memberships in the SSU.

Numayri also appointed regular forces representatives to the SSU in Darfur region congress.

Information Minister Denies BBC Reports on Juba

GF270536 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 25 Dec 84 pp 1, 24

[Ahmad Hanqah report from Khartoum]

[Excerpt]'Ali Muhammad Shammu, Sudanese information minister and official spokesman of the Sudanese Government, yesterday denied reports by the BBC and some news agencies about the fall of the city of Juba, capital of the southern Sudanese district, to the rebels. Minister Shammu described these reports as "ridiculous."

In an exclusive statement to *AL-ANBA'*, the minister said: For a long time, we in Sudan have lost confidence in everything broadcast by the BBC because it often says at the end of its news reports on Sudan that they are "unconfirmed reports." He said that while the Sudanese authorities express their extreme regret, they have currently decided that they will not deny any news originated by the London radio because such efforts will divert their attention from more important issues.

Minister Shammu said: I do not deny that we have security problems and that there is a rebellion in the south. We are ready to admit everything that is taking place in the south, but not in the current provocative and fabricated manner which is being propagandized by the BBC. He said: The Sudanese Armed Forces are currently heading for the city of Bor to expel the rebels. In order to assure you that the news about Juba's fall is fabricated and untrue I am telling you that Joseph Tumba called me earlier and said that he is leaving Juba for (Yamyu) for a family visit, and this is proof. I assure you that any Sudanese citizen, and particularly the bretheren in Juba, laugh at such news reports.

SPLA: 109 Soldiers Killed in Christmas Day Attack

EA261514 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Units of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] forces wiped out the 3d Company of Sudan's 142d Paratrooper Battalion in an ambush on Juba-Bor Road on Christmas day.

The attack resulted in the killing of 109 and the capture of 2 enemy soldiers, trucks and equipment. On hearing the news of the successful operation, the SPLA commander in chief, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, sent a congratulatory message to the commander and his forces in the area for carrying out the attack.

Briefs

New Ambassador to Somalia — Mogadishu, 23 Dec (SUNA) — Ambassador Taha Abu al-Qasim has presented his credentials to Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre as Sudan's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Somalia. [Excerpt][*Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 23 Dec 84 JN*]

TUNISIA

Mzali Receives Mauritanian Envoy, Ambassador

LD251758 Tunis TAP in French 1300 GMT 25 Dec 84

[Text] Tunis, 25 Dec (TAP) — Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali this morning received in Tunis Commander Cheik Sid Ahmed Ould Babamine, the Mauritanian foreign affairs minister, special envoy of President Ould Sid Ahmed Taya to President Bourguiba.

Tunisian Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and the Mauritanian Ambassador to Tunis, Mohamed Lamine Ould Yahia, were present at the meeting.

Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid Essebsi also received commander Cheik Sid Ahmed Ould Babamine this morning.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Statement on 14-24 Dec Fighting

LD262043 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] A statement issued today by Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Ministry of Information and Culture stated that the Saharan People's Liberation Army has once again launched fresh attacks during the past few days on the positions of the Moroccan forces in the Mahbes area in the occupied Saharan territories. The statement pointed out that on 24 December the Saharan fighters attacked, within the framework of the Greater Arab Maghreb offensive, a concentration of Royal Moroccan invading forces stationed in Sabket (?Tinwashit) in the Mahbes area, inflicting heavy losses on the invading forces, killing of 100 soldiers and the wounding of 100 others, and destroying of 30 vehicles, including armored vehicles, landrovers, and trucks. The statement added that Saharan fighters have also attacked many enemy's positions along the so-called [word indistinct] wall from 14 to 24 December, killing 37 royal soldiers and wounding of 49 others and destroying two trucks, one landrover, two 120-mm mortars, one 12.7-mm mortar, and several fortifications.

GABON

Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy Delivers Message to Bongo

AB271035 Dakar PANA in French
0923 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Libreville, 27 Dec (AGP-PANA) — Gabonese President Omar Bongo on Wednesday received in Libreville Kemal Maghur, co-secretary general of the Arab-African Union, who delivered a message from the leader of the Libyan Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The contents of the message were not disclosed.

The Arab-African Union, which was concluded in Oujda, Morocco, on 13 August 1984, currently covers only Morocco and Libya.

It has a clause which states that any form of aggression against one of the states constitutes aggression against the other.

It should be recalled that this union is open to Arab and African countries.

ZAIRE

Equatorial Guinean, Rwandan Leaders Return Home

AB261654 Kinshasa AZAP in French
1553 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Gbadolite, 26 Dec (AZAP) — Presidents Obiang Nguema of Equatorial Guinea and Juvenal Habyarimana of the Rwandan republic, left Gbadolite on Wednesday for their respective countries.

The two African presidents and their wives spent Christmas in the capital of the North Ubangui sub-region, upon the invitation of their Zairian counterpart, Marshal Mobutu.

The Equatorial Guinean president left Gbadolite at 1000 and the Rwandan leader at 1040.

They were seen off at Moanda airport by the MPR founding chairman and president of the republic, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko and Mama Bobi Ladawa.

BENIN

Kerekou Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Special Envoy

AB262204 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Our great comrade in arms, President Kerekou, this morning held talks with Colonel (Mashud 'Abd al-Hafid), the special envoy of the leader of the Libyan revolution. At the end of the talks that took place in the presence of brother (Mustafa al-Busita), the secretary general of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Colonel (Mashud 'Abd al-Hafid) stated to Silvestre Ogoumawo that he brought a message from Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi to President Kerekou.

[Begin recording] [(Al-Hafid) in Arabic fading into French translation] I have been charged by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, to come here to deliver a message to President Kerekou from his friend Al-Qadhdhafi concerning Chad after the disengagement for the withdrawal of Libyan troops from Chad and also to brief him on Libya's position on Chad. This is because there are a lot of rumors circulating to the effect that the Libyan support soldiers did not withdraw from Chad. In any case, all these rumors and lies are the workings of agents of American intelligence who are against the Libyan people. This is the substance of this message.

[Silvestre] How do you forsee the future of Chad, the subject of your long discussions, after the Franco-Libyan agreement?

[(Al-Hafid)] If all the enemies of Chad leave Chad alone, if the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] members agree among themselves and if the Chadian people take a firm decision to sack Habre then, of course, there will be peace in Chad in the future, because the GUNT is doing all in its power for peace to return to Chad and, above all, if France keeps its word of truly withdrawing from Chad. If France abandons Habre, he will surely give up because he does not have any support apart from France and the American intelligence agents.

[Silvestre] The message which you brought to President Kerekou also concerned relations of friendship, fraternity and cooperation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the People's Republic of Benin. Can you brief us on this?

[(Al-Hafid)] In fact, Libya attaches great importance to these relations. Thank you. [end recording]

Colonel (Al-Hafid) added that Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, has requested the dispatch of an international mission to Chad to verify the truth of information alleging that Libyan soldiers are still stationed in northern Chad.

BURKINA

Sankara Congratulates Castro on Anniversary

AB270930 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] The comrade chairman of the National Council of the Revolution yesterday sent a message to Commander Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of State and Ministers, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party. Here is the message:

Comrade President, on the occasion of the celebration of the 26th anniversary of the Cuban revolution, I am pleased to convey, on behalf of the militant people of Burkina Faso and their National Council of the Revolution and on my own behalf, my warmest congratulations.

The Burkinabe people, like all freedom and peace-loving people, join the Cuban people in celebrating this joyous occasion, which, in the eyes of the progressive world, recalls the crushing defeat inflicted on international imperialism and its outposts. On this happy occasion, we hail the many victories achieved in fighting international reaction, and we pay glowing tribute to those who fell with their arms in hand for the fatherland.

We are convinced that the revolutionary people of Cuba, under your enlightened leadership, fortified by their rich experience in struggle, will always be able to foil blackmail, evil machinations and all attempts at revanchism, and thereby remain in the vanguard of the grim fight against the assassins of people's freedom.

I pray you, comrade, to accept the expression of my highest and militant respect. The fatherland or death, we will overcome!

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, president of Faso and head of government

LIBERIA

Commerce Minister Comments on U.S. Visit, Regan

AB270905 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] The U.S. Treasury secretary, Donald Regan, has reportedly accepted an invitation to visit Liberia. According to the Liberian Broadcasting System news, the disclosure was made yesterday by Commerce Minister G. Alvin Jones, who was recently in the United States of America. Mr Jones said during his visit to the United States, he requested the relationship between the Federal Reserve of the United States and the National Bank of Liberia. [sentence as heard] The commerce minister said his request was based on the fact that there is no formal agreement between Liberia and the United States for the use of the American dollar in Liberia. He said as a result of this, it is costing the Government of Liberia $1 to import every $5 bill that enters the country.

Minister Jones also said he and the U.S. Treasury secretary discussed a wide range of commercial and other matters of mutual interest. He said the date for the arrival of Donald Regan will be arranged through diplomatic channels.

Nigerian Minister Ends Visit, Promises More Oil

AB270855 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] At the end of a 3-day official visit to Liberia, the Nigerian minister for petroleum and energy, Professor Tam David-West has described his talks with Liberian Government officials as fruitful. He said that there will be increased cooperation between the two West African countries in the new year.

Prof David-West, who left the country yesterday, arrived in the country at the invitation of the Liberian Government. The Nigerian petroleum minister also said there will be an increment in the supply of Nigerian crude oil to Liberia. He did not however reveal the quantity by which the supply will be increased. Prof David-West is quoted by the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY as saying Nigeria currently supplies Liberia with 20,000 barrels of crude oil per day.

He was seen off at the James (Pitsburg) airport by Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman; Land, Mines and Energy Minister Foday Kromah, and Information Minister Carlton A. Karpeh, among others.

MALI

Traore Receives Message From Mauritanian Envoy

AB261658 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Malian People's Democratic Union [UDPM] and president of the republic received in audience this morning Mauritanian Finance and Commerce Minister Lieutenant Colonel Anna Amadou Babali, a member of the CMSN. The Mauritanian minister was the bearer of a message from President Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya to President Moussa Traore. After discussions with the head of state on the recent events in Mauritania, the Mauritanian special envoy, on behalf of the CMSN, President Ould Taya, and the Mauritanian Government, reaffirmed Mauritania's devotion to friendship and cooperation with Mali.

For his part, President Moussa Traore expressed Mali's firm willingness to strengthen the cooperation and friendship existing between the two countries and peoples. According to him, the friendship between the two people's goes beyond all contingencies.

After the audience, the Mauritanian envoy talked to the Malian press about the contents of their discussions.

[Begin Babali recording] I came to see President Moussa Traore to whom I delivered a message from Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, CMSN chairman and the head of state of the Mauritanian Republic, explaining to him the recent events in my country.

As you know, we restructured the military committee on 12 December 1984. And it is the responsibility of my country to inform its neighbors and friends of this important decision we have made. And Mali is a friendly country and President Moussa Traore is one of our best friends. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Commentary on Libyan Withdrawal Verification

AB242008 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 24 Dec 84

["Viewpoint"]

[Text] For several weeks running, there have been allegations made (?clear) by the United States and authorities in the Chadian capital, Ndjamena, that Libya has not completely withdrawn its troops from Chad in violation of the agreement with France. The allegations have created considerable concern in many quarters, particularly among African states, which had called for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad, so as to pave the way for reconciliation and lasting peace. Libya had sent its troops to Chad to support former President Goukouni Oueddei, while the French forces were on the side of the Ndjamena government headed by President Hissein Habre. But the intervention of the foreign troops, including those of Zaire also supporting the Habre regime, had bedeviled all efforts at finding a peaceful solution to the Chadian crisis. When both France and Libya jointly announced about 3 months ago that they were immediately pulling out of Chad, Africans heaved a sigh of relief hoping that peace in Chad was at long last in [words indistinct]. But then came the allegations by the Habre government and the United States that Libya had not kept its word over military disengagement in Chad. Now Libya has reacted by not only denying that its troops are still in Chad, but also calling for the appointment of a multinational observer team to move to Chad and verify the claims and counterclaims. Libya wants such a team to find out if there were still any foreign troops in Chad, not only those of Libya.

This suggestion easily recommends itself for consideration and acceptance by all parties because it is a more reliable way of assuring the international community that foreign troops are either still in Chad or have indeed all gone. It is comforting that in the meantime France is resisting the pressure or temptation to return its troops to Chad as a counterpoise to the alleged Libyan presence. Certainly, a reintroduction of interventionist forces into Chad would only prolong the (?harrowing) experience of the people who have enjoyed no peace for the past 2 decades. This is why every possible step should be taken to ensure that all foreign meddlers get out of Chad so as to create the atmosphere for the Chadian people to come together and find a peaceful and durable solution to their country's crisis.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Message on 'Victory' at Huambo

MB270758 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Message from Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, read on his behalf at an official parade of the 4th Military Region headquarters on 25 December]

[Text] It was with great joy that the party and central government leadership learned of the resounding defeat inflicted by our Armed Forces upon the UNITA puppets in the city of Huambo in the early hours of 20 December. This victory bears resemblance to the heroic resistance displayed by our combatants and organized civilian workers against the enemy and by the defense forces in cooperation with the Sumbe working masses, thus neutralizing with resolve and bravery the macabre plans of the armed gangs equipped by racist South Africa which supports and leads them.

Due to the glorious action of our forces, the enemy failed to steal the people's property, destroy factories, and occupy any part of the city nor disturb the lives of our people on the eve of the holiday. In the areas which it attempted to enter, the enemy was unable to overcome the fire of our arms held with resolve and courage by revolutionary youngsters for the defense of the Angolan people and their gains.

On behalf of the party Central Committee and the government and on my own behalf, I pay homage to those comrades whose lives were taken by the enemy's murderous bullets when they fulfilled the sacred duty of defending the fatherland, the people, and their material and spiritual blessings. Let their example of courage and unselfishness be like a lighthouse guiding every combatant and worker in the defense of the people and revolution.

I praise the regional military council of the 4th Region, the regional military command, the party provincial committee, the delegation of the Ministry of State Security and all combatants who in the city of Huambo in the early hours of 20 December contributed with their effort and lives for the defeat of the UNITA armed gangs.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Speaks at Manhica Rally on 24 Dec

MB251641 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1031 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Speech by Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, at a rally in Manhica stadium, Maputo Province, on 24 December — live; Machel speaks in Portuguese and Shangaan with portions in Portuguese translated passage by passage into Shangaan]

[Excerpts] What do you want us to talk about or stress? What for example? Do you want to talk about the armed bandits? [Crowd shouts: "Yes"] Armed bandits? [Crowd shouts: "Yes"]. Do you want to know where the armed bandits come from? You want to know who they are and where they come from?

Our independence cost us blood. Our independence fed itself on blood. Our independence cost thousands and thousands and thousands of lives. Nobody wanted to grant us independence. Nobody. From the Rovuma to Maputo Rivers, our land was dominated. No Mozambican could be given the post of an administrator. You could never enter this place where we are now. You were never able to enter this town where you are now residing and living. You were only admitted into the town to be whipped.

Here there were schools only for whites, is that not true? [Crowd shouts: "Yes"] You were the property of the Catholic Church. You were the property of priests. That is what you were. All the blacks from the Rovuma to Maputo Rivers were the property of the Roman Catholic Church. We had no hospitals. We were born in our huts in the worst conditions. The doctors, midwives, and nurses were not meant for us. They were meant for the settlers.

In Maputo there were centers, warehouses, where blacks were kept. There were warehouses to store blacks. There were sold there. The respected ladies would buy blacks there. They would choose the most robust and the most clever and would pay him only 75 escudos. With 75 escudos he was supposed to pay taxes, buy clothes, prepare his future home, pay a dowry for a wife and clothe his children, is that not true? [Crowd shouts: "Yes"; Machel sings "We Shall Never Forget" in Shangaan] Who would forget that kind of treatment, who would? [Crowd shouts: "Nobody"]

Today, the schools are yours. The hospitals are yours. The city of Manhica is yours. The road is yours. The railroad is yours today. The train is yours. Are you happy? [Crowd shouts: "We are"]

All these Portuguese settlers abandoned Mozambique when independence, liberty, and equality were obtained. When equality was obtained, whereby blacks and whites were equal, were human beings and all Mozambicans, they ran away. When justice was obtained, whipping was abolished and a code was established for all, they ran away. They ran away when the People's Republic of Mozambique set up tribunals throughout the national territory so that all could be tried equally and justly.

When independence came, they ran to Smith's Rhodesia. These are the people who, when independence came, ran to South Africa. They are there in South Africa. They were the former owners of shops. That is why they pay the armed bandits and tell them: go and destroy that shop. These are the people who pay the bandits and tell them: go and kill those cattle because they were mine. These are the people who were the owners of the factories and tell the bandits: go and destroy that factory of mine. These are the people who were tax collectors and used to whip Mozambicans. Now they tell the bandits: go and kill those people who paid taxes to me, kill those people whom I whipped.

We must remember the past. We must remember what we were yesterday before the proclamation of independence. We must remember what each one of us was before independence. What we were before Frelimo took up arms and waged a struggle to obtain independence, what were we then?

West Europe and NATO gave a lot of arms to Portugal. The West supported the war here against your independence. Many European countries — I don't want to mention names — many European countries supported Portugal. We defeated them all. Now, do you think that they are happy with our independence? [Crowd shouts: "No"] No, they wanted us to allow them to continue to exploit you and steal from you. They wanted us to allow them to exploit you. That is why — listen attentively — that is why when we proclaimed independence, these settlers ran to Rhodesia. Smith was their ally and friend.

In Maputo, a number of colonialists ran to Rhodesia. The flechas [members of a paramilitary organ during colonial regime], commandos, criminals, outlaws, antisocial elements, murderers, they all left for Rhodesia. From Sofala, Manica, and Tete, all these murderers, these criminals, antisocial elements, outlaws, members of especial groups, members of the Portuguese colonial regime's political police [PIDE] and sepoys, left for Smith's Rhodesia because Smith was their ally and friend.

They organized themselves in Rhodesia, all these groups, led by members of PIDE such as Jorge Jardim, Cristina, Roxo. All of them are Portuguese. They organized themselves there in Rhodesia to infiltrate Mozambique and murder civilians, destroy hospitals, shops, schools, kill teachers, kidnap nurses, kill doctors, deputies, administrators and the people. That is how the armed banditry began. They burn trains with passengers inside, they burn buses with passengers, children, women, pregnant women, and the elderly inside. They are paid by the settlers who ran from Mozambique to Rhodesia. When we proclaimed independence, the settlers, the West, West Europe, they said the independence of Mozambique would last for only 6 months. We shall return there, they said.

Those who lived in Gaza and Maputo fled to South Africa. They took stolen cattle to South Africa. They took stolen tractors to South Africa. They destroyed factories. They took stolen trucks to South Africa. What they were unable to carry, they burned and destroyed. Some of those were settled here in Manhica. They were the owners of Manhica, owners of Maragra, is that not true? They owned you. Yes, they owned you, they owned the residents of Magude, Moamba, Naamacha and Matutuine, is that not true? They all ran to South Africa hoping to come back after 6 months. We are going to kill the president. We are going to kill the ministers. We are going to kill all members of the government. We are going to destroy Frelimo, we are going to destroy all those who belong to Frelimo, they said.

How could they kill Frelimo when everyone of you belongs to Frelimo? Who does not belong to Frelimo let him raise his hand? Let him raise his hand. This one belongs to Frelimo, does he not? That one there belongs to Frelimo, does he not? And that one too? Long live Frelimo! [Crowd shouts: "Long live"] Long Live Frelimo! [Crowd shouts: "Long Live"] When we say long live Frelimo, we mean long live every inhabitant of our national territory. When we say long live Frelimo, we mean long live every citizen of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

What a logic to return in 6 months! Our weapons feed, they feed and if they return our weapons will feed on them. Do you hear? Our weapons feed on flesh. They do not feed on cassava or sweet potato. [applause] They know it and that is why they don't possess the courage. Accordingly, they buy blacks, they buy your brothers. They are aware that if they come, our weapons will feed on them They cannot return. Our weapons are ready to defend the government. Our weapons defend the government, the people, the party and our land. Let them come. Our weapons are ready.

Now I ask: Are they themselves normal people? Since Smith's Rhodesia they have been sending bandits and monkeys to Mozambique to kill the population. They went to South Africa. They are coming from South Africa to kill because they want to return. They transform your sons into monkeys, pigs, and cannon fodder for our arms. They are waiting so that these monkeys can kill in order for them to return. Are such people normal people? They want to return to Mozambique to take part in the government of the People's Republic of Mozambique through these monkeys, bandits, [word indistinct], antisocials, murderers, criminals, and outlaws.

These bandits are led ... [changes thought] their true leaders are Portuguese. There are no blacks there. Their leaders are not blacks. Have your heard? You have heard, haven't you? Have you heard? Even in South Africa, in South Africa where they are, in Rhodesia where they were before, no black has ever surfaced to lead them. It has always been a Portuguese. It is the Portuguese who are opening the offices of these bandits in Western Europe. In many Western countries these bandits have representatives who are Portuguese who had fled from Mozambique. It is they who are using armed bandits.

The headquarters spreading massive propaganda about the crimes committed by the armed bandits, hailing the heroism and the courage of the armed bandits, is in Lisbon, because they want to return. The Portuguese Government says it has no control over its citizens. It is a government that does not control its citizens.

However, the master of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] is not Portugal. Let us not make a mistake. It is South Africa. That is why we signed the Nkomati peace accord so as to end this link. It is the responsibility of South Africa. South Africa is the one which trained them. South Africa is the one which [words indistinct]. It is South Africa which created them. It created them. It equipped and infiltrated the bandits into Mozambique. It supplied them here in Mozambique. They brought them by planes here. They brought medicines for them. It has always supplied the armed bandits. So, therefore, it is South Africa's responsibility.

What is our responsibility? We also have a responsibility. Ours is to defend our land. It is to defend our independence. It is to defend our government. It is to defend Frelimo. We must develop our country. This is our responsibility. But in order to do this, we must kill.

There are some captured bandits here. Some armed bandits were brought here. How many are there? When I asked one of the bandits how many people he had killed he said: I killed only two people.

The settlers who fled to Rhodesia, South Africa, and then to Portugal, those nostalgic for colonialism want to return and take part in the Governnemt of the People's Republic of Mozambique because they have an army under arms and their army is those bandits over there. The settlers who fled to Rhodesia, South africa, and Portugual after the Lusaka Agreement, the 7 September terrorists who fled carrying the Portuguese flag with them to South Africa are saying: We want to return to participate in the Frelimo government, in a government of reconciliation with Mozambique because we do not recognize the Lusaka Agreement. They want to return through those armed bandits.

Who are the enemies of these colonialists who fled to Rhodesia, South Africa, and Portugal? Who are the enemies of those nostalgic for colonialism? What are their targets? It is the defenseless population. Their enemies are the children, women, and elderly persons. It is, in a nutshell the peaceful and defenseless population.

The Government of Mozambique is being required to negotiate with the 7 September terrorists. It is required to negotiate with antisocials. We are required to negotiate with murderers so as to bring about neocolonization or a recolonization of Mozambique.

The West, which has always been the ally of Portuguese colonialism, makes propaganda saying there is war in Mozambique. There is guerrilla war in Mozambique. Indeed, a guerrilla war against children and pregnant women. They say that there is a guerrilla war in Mozambique. What guerrilla war is this which only kills children, pregnant women, old people and only destroys buses with passengers. What guerrilla war is this which shuts defenseless members of the public into huts and burns them alive? Has our enemy changed? Is what they are doing different from what colonialism was doing in the war zones? What were they doing? What is the difference between the colonial army and these armed bandits?

Our flag will never be removed from the flagpost. Do you understand? [applause] We shall certainly liquidate these armed bandits. We are going to give you arms. You must kill. Do you hear. You must kill. [applause] We are going to send instructors. We are going to send you instructors and arms to train you people in Manhica and Marracuene. You must clean out the armed bandits. [applause] You must hunt them down. You must hunt them down in the streets, in buses, trains, railroads, and in the bush. You must not give them breathing space. You must hunt them down permanently. You must kill them. We are going to send instructors here.

The bandits you saw today are not the hands, the body, or brains. The real men behind everything are in South Africa and Portugal. Those are the true terrorists and armed bandits. They are in South Africa and Portugal. They do not want to come now personally. They are the ones who send ammunition, mines, and hand grenades to those you have just seen. They send radio transmitters so that these ones can tell South Africa and Portugal that today we killed 20 people, today we destroyed 20 trucks. They send this information to Portugal. Let me make things clear. The enemies of the Mozambican people are very few. In European, Asian, and Latin American countries and elsewhere, we have friends. These are friends who want the Mozambican people to live in peace.

I am going to thank you. It has been very sunny. You have been here since early this morning. Present here are children, girls, ladies, youths, and old people. This shows your determination. It shows your courage. It shows your strength, your great organiza(tion and determination to fight and win. It shows the trust that you have in your party, your government and the Armed Forces, the FPLM. It shows that you have hope in the future. Your future is shining.

GDR Envoy Presents Gift to Coal Workers

MB270925 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] (Eberhardo Kluth), first secretary of the GDR Embassy in Maputo, recently presented clothes and sport equipment to the first secretary of the party committee of the Mozambique Coal enterprise, CARBOMOC, in Tete Province, who is also a Frelimo Party Central Committee member. According to the newspaper *NOTICIAS*, the GDR Solidarity Committee's gift is for the CARBOMOC workers.

Renamo Claims Maputo Isolated by Road, Railroad

PA270233 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0205 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Text] Lisbon, 26 Dec (EFE) — The Mozambique National Resistance Movement [Renamo] announced today in Lisbon that Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, is without water and electricity and isolated by road and railroad. An MNRM spokesman in Lisbon said that the antigovernment guerrillas are now operating only 4 km from Maputo.

He added: "The Marxist regime of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] now in power would have already fallen if the Western European countries had suspended food and fuel shipments." The MNRM, which is demanding that the Mozambique Government hold general elections, began the armed struggle against the Frelimo a short time after the country gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

Briefs

Iranian Red Cross — A delegation from the Red Cross of the Islamic Republic of Iran arrived in Maputo yesterday for a 4-day visit to Mozambique. A note from the foreign ministry cited by the Mozambique Information Agency says that the Iranian delegation, led by Dr (Fahid Basjardi), chairman of the Iranian Red Cross, includes senior officials of the Tehran Government and of that humanitarian organization. According to the same note, the visiting delegation will hold talks with the ministries of foreign affairs and health, the state secretariat for international cooperation and the Mozambican Red Cross and other organiza-

tions of the Mozambican state. [Text][*Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 26 Dec 84 MB*]

NAMIBIA

Damara Official Says Talks With SWAPO To Be Held

MB261924 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] From Windhoek it is reported that the proposed talks between SWAPO and the Damara Council will still be held despite the fact that neither side can agree on a date for the talks. The chairman of the executive committee of the Damara authorities and member of the council, Mr Justus Garoeb, said the talks would probably be held early next year.

However, it is still not known whether it will be held in the capital of Zambia, Lusaka. Mr Garoeb said the proposed talks must be seen as a continuation of the talks which were held in Lusaka earlier this year. He said it was important that the SWAPO leadership was involved so that their attitudes could be gauged.

SWAPO Radio Says U.S. Distorts Namibian Situation

MB251334 Harare Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 24 Dec 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Four years ago Ronald Reagan, the most notorious representative of the (?using) of [words indistinct] of U.S. imperialism, assumed power as the 40th U.S. president, and adopted a policy of so-called constructive engagement with the hated apartheid regime in Pretoria. In trying to justify this more direct and open support for apartheid, the new occupant of the White House claimed that a new friendly attitude towards racist South Africa would influence [word indistinct] to change their [word indistinct] internal policy, and to resolve the Namibian independence question.

However, the 4 years for the Reagan administration to work in close collaboration with the white minority regime has clearly shown that constructive engagement is a (?method of) resuscitating the decaying Botha regime. This is unmistakable [words indistinct].

In the international arena, the Reagan administration has been strengthening its financial, technological, economic, military, scientific, and diplomatic support for the South African regime, blocking the imposition of comprehensive UN sanctions against it, and undermining the international community's economic, trade, and cultural boycotts of apartheid, circumventing the international arms embargo against South Africa, and trying to end the regime's international isolation in order to strengthen its position in the world arena.

In regard to Namibia's independence, Reagan's acolyte at the altar for African oppression, Chester Crocker, was given the task of making certain that [words indistinct] settlement in Namibia should be (?kept out). Accordingly, Crocker's activity was suitably described as part of the on-going effort to find a negotiated solution to the Namibian independence.

The (?shuffling) has been going on now for 3 years, without (?strides) in opening the deadlock in the issue. It is the Americans and their apartheid friends who planned it. They do not wish to implement the UN plan, which calls for unsupervised and controlled elections, because they know SWAPO would sweep the polls. Neither Washington nor Pretoria is prepared to allow SWAPO to take over the reins of power in Namibia, even through the democratic (?process). Hence, the dead end in (?diplomacy) in regard to Namibia's decolonization.

The diplomatic (?fumbling) of Crocker is governed by a (?false struggle) to create the impression that they are making progress in narrowing the difference between SWAPO and racist South Africa that raise false expectations of an imminent breakthrough in the search for a political settlement while simultaneously, methodically, and purposefully obstructing the implementation of the UN peace formula, as embodied in Security Council Resolution 435.

(?In the light of) [words indistinct] racist South Africa, with the active support of the Reagan administration, continues to hold hostage the inalienable right of the Namibian people to national independence. Namibia's independence is being made conditional on the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from the People's Republic of Angola, an issue totally unrelated to the right of the Namibian people to self-determination.

In their bid to justify this so-called linkage theory, the state department and the apartheid regime allege that SWAPO was closely drawn to the Soviet Union, but the vanguard movement for the liberation of Namibia is [words indistinct] of Soviet foreign policy, that Angola and Cuba are extentions of the Soviet Union, and therefore the American position is that Cuba and Angola should be destroyed first before Namibia can be granted independence. Such (?claims) are nothing but lies intended to mislead the American voter and international opinion.

Racist South Africa is unlawfully occupying Namibia (?in defiance of UN resolutions). The Cuban internationalist forces on the other hand, came to Angola at the request of the Angolan Government, following the invasion of Angola by the South African Army, in an act of patent aggression openly directed at overthrowing the legitimate government of Angola. Angola is a sovereign state which has the right to take (?prompt) measures for the defense of her security in accordance with Article (?51) of the UN Charter, and it did that following South Africa's invasion of her sovereign territory by inviting the government of Cuba to send military assistance. It is Angola's right, regardless of whether Namibia exists or does not exist.

As long as South African troops occupy Angolan territory [words indistinct] and [words indistinct] of continuing her aggression, no argument can be made for the withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola. If Namibia became independent, it would be much more difficult for South Africa to continue to occupy Angolan territory, and hence the linkage by South Africa and the United States of Namibia's independence to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

The linkage theory, born out of the United States' unholy alliance with the apartheid (?monster), is only a ploy to inject a so-called East-West dimension to the Namibian colonial issue. The Washington-Pretoria axis is characterized by (?baseless) hostility against the People's Republic of Angola, and is [word indistinct] their collusion to intensify acts of destabilization in that country with South Africa acting as a spearhead.

The United States and South Africa are misrepresenting the nature of the colonial conflict in Namibia as one of global strategic consideration. (?Such) is the real policy of Reagan in southern Africa, the aim of which is to protect capitalism and apartheid. Reagan has made it clear that his administration will stand by South Africa because it has stood by them in the past. Calling the obnoxious Boer regime a friendly (?country), a war-time ally, and a (?warfront) of the Western [words indistinct] global offensive of communism.

It is all in accordance with the crusade of Reagan against the forces of national liberation, peace, and social progress. At a dangerous point when the forces of international imperialism and reaction are trying to revert humanity to the cold war era, the policy of constructive engagement has (?two objectives): On the one hand, it is [word indistinct] to cover up the cracks in the apartheid regime in South Africa, a regime that (?is able to) rule only by massacre of blacks and keeping the gun pointed at every living African in South Africa and Namibia.

These were the (?methods) of the Hitler regime, which the same supporters of apartheid today appeased until it had gassed and slaughtered millions. The Reagan administration today is not only appeasing the [word indistinct] South African regime, but is also actively collaborating with it to prevent the independence of Namibia [words indistinct] in the interests of apartheid.

SOUTH AFRICA

Government May Release Nelson Mandela in 1985

MB270757 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 27 Dec 84 p 3

[Report by Chris Freimond, political correspondent]

[Text] Although the Christmas amnesty for prisoners announced by the State President, Mr P.W. Botha, did not include leaders of the African National Congress, some observers said yesterday they believed the chances were strong that the government would release Nelson Mandela next year. Mr Botha said 44 long-term prisoners, including two political prisoners, would be released by the end of the month in a special Christmas amnesty.

According to a liaison officer for the Department of Prisons, Brigadier Erika van Zyl, another 41 long-term prisoners will be released under the same amnesty in the coming two years. The amnesty will only apply to prisoners over 65 with specified jail terms which began after December 14 this year and not to life term prisoners such as Mandela. Two political prisoners are among the 44 who will be freed. They are aged 76 and 78 respectively.

The amnesty will only apply to first time offenders who have served at least a quarter of their sentences and to other prisoners who have served at least a third of their terms. Brig Van Zyl said the crimes of the 85 long-term prisoners who would qualify for freedom ranged from political offences to theft and culpable homicide.

There has been speculation in recent weeks that the government is preparing for direct talks with representatives of the ANC. Many observers believe that it will be virtually impossible for the government to negotiate with the organisation without releasing some of its imprisoned leaders. Mandela was jailed for life in 1964.

Uncovered Terrorist Arms Cache 'Largest Ever'

MB261542 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Tex] A spokesman for the South African security police says the arms cache which was found in the Ingwavuma district of northern Natal earlier this week is the largest single find ever in South Africa. He says the arms were found in a mountainous area covered by dense bush. The arms included ammunition, landmines, and other explosives. The South African police, the security police and the Air Force took part in the operation. A terrorist was shot and the arms found a short while later.

RSA Accused of Breaking Nkomati Accord

MB261942 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 26 Dec 84

[Text] Mozambique is continuing to accuse South Africa of breaking the Nkomati Accord. The latest accusation against South Africa is contained in an article in today's edition of the state-run Mozambican newspaper *NOTICIAS*. The article says South Africa has violated the crucial third item in the accord between it and Mozambique because it has failed to stop its support for the rebel movement MNR [Renamo].

The article was signed by the *NOTICIAS* editor, Mario Ferro, and follows a speech by Mozambique's President Samora Machel in which he hit out at Portuguese tolerance of the MNR's diplomatic activity in Lisbon and blamed South Africa for the continuing survival of the rebel movement.

Academic Interviewed on Proposed Talks With ANC

MB262011 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 26 Dec 84

[From the "Focus on Africa" program; BBC journalist Julian Marshall interview with Afrikaans academic Harvey Van der Merwe — recorded]

[Text] [Marshall] There was speculation in the South African press last week that the government might be planning to have talks soon with the exiled African National Congress [ANC]. The speculation arose out of a visit to Lusaka by the editor of the progovernment Afrikaans newspaper *BEELD*. Shortly

afterward, the newspaper said that the time had come for the government to talk to groups like the ANC.

However, the ANC has ruled out any talks at that level and the South African President, Pieter Botha, said that it wasn't government policy to negotiate with groups who advocated violence. Well, the man very much at the center of organizing the trip by the editor of *BEELD* and promoting a dialogue with the ANC is leading academic, Professor Harvey van der Merwe. On the line to Cape Town, I asked him in the light of the rebuttals by the government and the ANC, what contacts he was arranging for the future.

[Begin recording] [Van der Merwe] What I have in mind is that if we can, promote contacts between different sections of the population with, especially, what I call extraparliamentary groups. That would include the ANC, the United Democratic Front, the Azanian People's Organization, and such groups. The contacts need not be only with politicians, and Mr Botha quite correctly pointed out at this stage official meetings between nationalist members of parliament and the ANC is not possible.

What I am arguing is that this is not the only kind of contacts that is required in what we call the democratic process, though, one kind of contact would be with Afrikaans or progovernment journalists. This is the first thing I have done and I think this, of course, got a lot of publicity because the assistant editor of *BEELD*, after his meetings with the ANC, wrote two articles which were fairly favorably disposed, and he also wrote an editorial calling on the government to have official talks with the ANC. I see that kind of contact as very valuable in paving the way for future discussions.

[Marshall] Would you expect what might be described as these fairly low-level contacts eventually to lead to contacts at government level?

[Van der Merwe] Well, I just take it for granted that at some stage there will be official talks. I can't see us continuing the current situation for 100 years. I do not know when it will come, but I think one must accept this as a fact.

[Marshall] But, as of now, Prof Van de Merwe, both sides would seem to be poles apart.

[Van der Merwe] Yes. I think this is why it is so much more important for people like me and organizations like mine to do whatever we can to pave the way to build up what you may call a middle ground and to see what we can do to promote understanding and communication between the two groups. I may add here that the other people who may be drawn into the debate would be academics, church leader, and business leaders.

[Marshal] Although it seems to be official National Party policy not to engage in any kind of dialogue with the ANC, have you, in fact, had any intimations from individual members of the party that they might be willing to take part in such discussions?

[Van der Merwe] There are a number of people which one might call progovernment people or even, I would say, members of the National Party — although I didn't ask about membership — yes, who do favor the idea, and I would put it in these terms that there are many people who responded positively to the editorial in this Afrikaans newspaper *BEELD*, and that is, yes, we must have discussions and while official negotiations cannot take place, private discussions would be highly desirable; and yes, the answer to that is a definite yes. There are many people in the Afrikaans community who have already in public called for such talks, and that includes Afrikaans academics from a number of universities. In fact, our English Sunday paper, the *SUNDAY TIMES*, carried articles to that effect about 2-3 weeks ago.

[Marshall] But there might be some who say, Prof van der Merwe, that such contacts are completely irrelevant unless they do take place at the government level, at the level of the policy makers.

[Van der Merwe] I would not argue that they are irrelevant. I would argue that if they could pave the way for such talks, then they serve a good purpose.

[Marshall] At what level have the contacts been on the side of the ANC?

[Van de Merwe] I have met with ANC in Lusaka, and I have been [pauses] senior officials. [as heard]

[Marshall] So what kind of program then do you then envisage for the new year, Prof van der Merwe?

[Van der Merwe] I would hope to arrange meetings of what I would call progovernment individuals such as academics, maybe more journalists, newspapermen, and business leaders. [end recording]

Commentary on ANC Talks Survey

MB240815 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Dec 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The survey by the Human Sciences Research Council purports to show that 43 percent of white South Africans favor negotiations between the South African Government and the ANC. Granted, the survey also indicated that 44 percent opposed negotiations, and the remainder were undecided. But it is the type of thinking of the 43 percent that constitutes the ill wind that augurs no one any good.

Newspapers such as the *SUNDAY STAR* are elated, and an editorial today regards such negotiations as the best Christmas present this country could get. Significantly, the newspaper also carries a lengthy article on democracies in Africa. It manages to muster the names of four minor states where people actually have an opportunity to vote for governments of their choosing, and it takes the South African Broadcasting Corporation to task for describing as disaster the Lancaster House talks which led to independence of Zimbabwe.

It fails to mention that more than half the white people have fled Zimbabwe since that country became independent, and many more would love to do so except their material losses would be too great. For them, the Lancaster House talks were indeed a disaster.

As for Joshua Nkomo's Matabele group, constituting about 18 percent of the Zimbabwe population, the disaster of Lancaster House is contained in Joshua Nkomo's own words. There are fewer human rights in Zimbabwe today, he has declared, than there were under white rule.

The ANC terrorist organization is totally committed to the South African Communist Party. They are one and the same thing, and both are not only led from Moscow, but every terrorist bomb exploded in South Africa, and every terrorist rifle fired, is made in the USSR. The ANC owes Moscow, and should it get into power, South Africa would soon be inundated with Russian saviors, to quote Bishop Desmond Tutu.

Given the ANC's communist connections, given that democracy has never won the day in negotiations with communists, given that the ANC is committed to the violent overthrow of this government, given that it si committed to a one-man, one-vote unitary state dispensation — and we have seen throughout Africa what that leads to in a heterogenous society — given all that, of what value is all this bleating for negotiations with the ANC?

But if anyone still has any illusions, just try to conjure up the following picture: State President P.W. Botha and Foreign Minister Pik Botha smiling broadly, and in the company of an equally happy Nelson Mandela and Oliver Tambo, as they emerge from negotiations in Lusaka, to issue a joint statement that they now have a blueprint for the final solution to South Africa's problems. The thought is too ridiculous to contemplate.

Commentary Reacts To Dutch Statement on ANC Aid

MB240630 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Dec 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is palpably and irrevocably ridiculous for the Dutch ambassador to South Africa, Mr Hugo Carsten, to declare on the one hand that the Dutch Government advocates peaceful change in South Africa while, on the other hand, it donates some 475,000 dollars a year to the ANC terrorist organization. Adlai Stevenson once said of Richard Nixon that he is the kind of politician who would cut down a redwood tree, and then stand on the stump to make a speech in favor of conservation. Mr Carsten and his Dutch Government show similar tendencies.

The Dutch Government can hardly be ignorant of the fact that it is declared ANC policy to overthrow the South African Government by violent means. Equally, it can hardly be ignorant of the ANC tactics of blatant and brutal terrorism in South Africa. How many more innocent civilians must be killed in incidents such as the Pretoria bomb blast before the Dutch Government concedes that it is supporting a bunch of terrorists? What is more, the majority of people killed in South Africa through ANC atrocities have been black people — the very ones the ANC claims it is trying to liberate.

So, directly or indirectly, the Dutch Government is also sponsoring the killing of South Africa blacks — the very ones they claim to be oh so concerned about.

The claim by Mr Carsten that the 475,000 dollars voted annually to the ANC is used for humanitarian purposes only, has been heard from virtually every sponsor of the ANC. Were this true, the question arises: where, then, do the terrorists get the money to buy the equipment with which they terrorize, not to mention all the other expenses involved?

The truth is that the Dutch Government, in common with all other governments which sponsor the ANC, have no way of monitoring how their money is spent and, even if they could ensure that this money was used for humanitarian purposes, its availability simply means that an equivalent amount of money with no strings attached, and received from other sources, becomes available for financing the ANC art of terrorism.

What is more, if the Dutch Government is so humanitarian in its approach, one would think that at least an equal amount of money would be made available to the victims of ANC terrorism in South Africa, particularly those innocent black and white people who are blasted into the hereafter by ANC bombs planted in public places. That way, the Dutch Government could revel in the thought that, not only are they assisting the killers, but at the same time they are helping the victims and their destitute families. That would be the ultimate humanitarian approach.

And this is not the end of the responsibility which the Dutch Government and like-thinking governments and organizations in the West must be prepared to shoulder when they support the ANC. The ANC makes no secret of the fact that it has close ties with the South African Communist Party, and the influence and assistance of the Soviet Union is so obvious as to make it hardly worth mentioning.

Support for the ANC, therefore, is tantamount to support for Marxism in South Africa, and another Soviet stooge government in this part of the world. It can be stated unequivocally, therefore, that any support which the Dutch Government, or any other Western democracy, provides the ANC is tantamount to direct support for the violent overthrow of the South African Government, direct support for the terrorizing and killing of innocent civilians, and direct support for the aims and aspirations of communism in Southern Africa.

In his interview, Dutch Ambassador Carsten ascribed many of the misunderstandings between South Africa and his government to geographical distance. Such an explanation constitutes an admisssion by the Dutch embassy that it is failing to inform its government about the factual situation in South Africa. And, if the embassy refuses to concede that it is not doing its job properly, then the only conclusion that can be reached is that the actions being taken by the Dutch Government are being taken not because of the information if receives from its embassy staff, but despite that information.

No matter which way you look at it, it is palpably absurd for the Dutch Government to claim that it supports peaceful change in South Africa while, at the same time, it provides material and moral support to an organization committed to violence.

Commentary Reviews Angolan Political Situation
MB270809 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Station commentary: "Southern Africa's Most Urgent Problem"]

[Text] Southern Africa's most urgent problem as we go into 1985 remains the situation in Angola, which is worsening instead of improving. Increasingly, reports from that violence-riddled country indicate the urgency of the situation. *THE NEW YORK TIMES* says that attacks by the UNITA forces of Dr Jonas Savimbi are crippling the Angolan economy and are forcing the MPLA government to rely more heavily on the Cuban troops within its borders. According to the newspaper, the fighting which is spreading across the country appears to have blocked the chances of any quick withdrawal of the estimated 30,000 Cuban troops from Angola.

General reports received from Angola in recent times indicate the following: Dr Jonas Savimbi has some 35,000 troops in the field. They are well-equipped and their morale is high. Dr Savimbi's personal charisma and his excellent knowledge of guerrilla warfare tactics are proving too much for the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and Cuban forces. Large numbers of FAPLA forces have been deserting. Dr Savimbi has infiltrated the Central Committee of the MPLA, and openly boasts that he receives information within 24 hours of the decisions taken by the MPLA on the war.

There has been fighting between the FAPLA forces and the Cubans. UNITA forces fully control about one-third of the country, which is run by Dr Savimbi as a state within a state. UNITA guerrillas are now active in virtually all the rest of the country, including the capital city, Luanda, where active sabotage has been carried out. The Cubans are useful only in protecting important towns and cities, while the FAPLA are having an uphill battle in the bush trying to contain UNITA.

The situation is bleak because Angola constitutes an area of grave instability in the southern African subcontinent. Not only is the country involved in civil war, but there are huge numbers of foreign troops in Angola, and Angola affords a base to the SWAPO terrorist whose strikes into South-West Africa/Namibia are inclined to lead to swift and fierce retaliation from South African forces. In addition, the entire South-West African settlement drive today depends on the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola and as the war escalates, the likelihood of a Cuban withdrawal is reduced. This then is the main problem confronting the southern African subcontinent as it enters 1985.

1984 Called 'Year of Turmoil in Urban Black Affairs'
MB270838 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Dec 84

[Station commentary: "The Urban Blacks"]

[Text] In South Africa's fast-moving political kaleidoscope, there is probably no dispute about what has been its most consistently dominant feature for many months passed. There have been more spectacular developments [illegible] establishment of a multi-ethnic parliament, but 1984, as a whole, has been the year of turmoil in urban black affairs. It has been the year in which the question of achieving full rights for blacks living in the urban areas has moved to the top of the political agenda, where it is clearly going to remain for [illegible] time to come. Important first steps were taken along the [illegible], but it has also been a year of physical turbulence, of political demonstrations, black against black, violence, property destruction, and looting.

It was a time of transition with all the apparent contradictions that characterize such a period. While the state president was formulating as a priority goal the initiative underway to resolve the community's constitutional situation, in their own areas there was unrest. Undoubtedly the community — impatient, somewhat confused by constutional developments in other fields — was receptive to militant sloganeering. The slogans and more were provided by radical political groups: murderers who callously trade human lives for a political point, as *THE STAR* put it. Their methods were varied, but all vicious. To quote *THE STAR* again: we are talking of murder, assassination, and arson by political bully boys, gangsters who are terrorizing innocent black citizens by burning whole families or shooting or beating people to death.

The radicals were spurred into action because they perceived correctly that the claims on which they base their popular appeal were being overtaken by events. Gradually, but very discernably, there was movement: growing advances in social and economic life, concrete steps in expanding democratic participation by urban blacks in the political decision making affecting their affairs. In specific areas, like education, patient negotiation had led to the identifying of problems, implementation of corrective measures, and a clear commitment to accelerating further development.

In the directly political sphere, the early part of the year had seen the introduction of the first 29 elected black city and town councils, the starting point and essential foundation for political representation in any larger framework based on democratic practices, regardless of the form it might take. That foundation was strengthened when it became known later in the year that the black councils would also link up with those other communities in regional service councils.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet committee that is charged with devising the rest of the framework of governmental participation had been holding meetings with black leaders of all political persuasions and walks of life to get to grips with its assignment. Above all, it has been a year of transition. The turbulence was part of it, and the cut and thrust of constructive argument no less than in its physical manestations.

But it has also been a time of setting the scene for what must now follow. From the turbulence has emerged greater clarity of approaches and a renewed sense of purpose in the machinery that is getting into gear to meet this last and most complex of the many constitutional challenges with which South Africa has been confronted over the years.

ZIMBABWE

Editorial Urges End to Political Violence

MB240654 Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 16 Dec 84 p 10

[Editorial: "Call a Halt"]

[Text] No effort or energy should be spared to stop the fast-growing cancer of politically motivated violence in Zimbabwe. Those who organise, inspire or connive at it must know that they are doing incalculable harm, not only to the living Zimbabweans but also to those yet to be born.

The precedent of political violence is going to be a permanent feature of the political culture of Zimbabwe for generations to come. This is the principle of political or social precedent. And yet, on the other hand, if we set precedents of peace, tolerance and respect for fellow Zimbabweans, these will form a firm bedrock for the political culture of Zimbabweans for generations to come.

We painfully refer to the recent spate of political violence in Glen Norah, Masvingo, Mutare and Plumtree. To say these primitive incidents are a national disgrace is to understate the sorry position.

That Zimbabweans should engage in such destructive hatred and spend so much time and energy in sadistic acts against fellow Zimbabweans is an outrageous betrayal of the spirit of Zimbabwe and of all those Zimbabweans who sacrificed their very lives so that those remaining behind could live in freedom, peace and prosperity.

Political leaders are to blame for the violence. The violent language that they use has the direct effect of planting violence in the minds of loyal followers. The sad thing is that it is the ordinary people who are being paid with violence and sometimes death as a reward for their roles in the liberation of Zimbabwe.

The universal truth must be learnt that violence can never recruit genuine members of a party: it can only recruit pretenders, potential subverters from within and cheats. It must also be realised that when young people are taught to use violence, they have no limits. They beat all and sundry, even the very leaders when they are caught in the violence scene. It must be known that young people enjoy violence as a form of sport and recreation.

We wish once again to appeal to all leaders to preach peace, tolerance and mutual respect instead of violence. Zimbabweans must stop this disgraceful and dangerous act of self-immolation.